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A·BRIEF·HISTORY·OF·THE  
MADISON·SQUARE  
PRESBYTERIAN·CHVRCH  
AND·ITS·ACTIVITIES









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## Madison Square Presbyterian Church



*A Brief History of the  
Madison Square Presbyterian  
Church*

*and its Activities*

*by Rev. Charles H. Parkhurst, D.D.*

*New York  
Printed by request  
1906*

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## Foreword

**I**T is due to ourselves as well as to those who have gone before us that we should cherish the recollections of the past, that in the midst of all our forward endeavors we should remember that the roots of our present life are buried in the old years and that what we are now, and that what we can do now, is due not only to the ministration of God's spirit of wisdom and power, but due also to those who once stood where we now stand and who, by their prayerful and faithful service, have laid the foundations upon which we, their loyal and dutiful children, are privileged to build.

It is at the impulse of this motive that there has been prepared the accompanying History of the Madison Square Presbyterian Church. That it is possible to present so complete a record of the earlier part of that history is due almost entirely to the painstaking service of Mr. Joseph Hartley, recently deceased, who has had at his command the faithfully kept and carefully preserved memoranda of his honored father, the late Robert M. Hartley, a long-time member of our Session and whose devoted life was closely knit into the religious and humanitarian history of this city.

The completion of the first half-century of our history as a church, synchronizing as this epoch does

with our transference to a new edifice, seems to render the present an apt time for putting into permanent form the story of our past, and that with the double purpose of binding coming years more closely with those that are gone, and of stimulating those of its membership who still survive to conserve the legacy with which we have been so richly endowed; and not only to conserve it but in due time to bequeath it augmented in wealth and volume to those who shall be our successors.

C. H. PARKHURST

New York City, September 15, 1906.





BROOME STREET CHURCH

## Historical Sketch

THE Madison Square Presbyterian Church is an offshoot of the Central Presbyterian, formerly worshipping at Broome Street, a brief account of whose beginnings and early struggles cannot but serve as a pertinent and interesting prelude to our own history.

The Central Church was an outcome of the persevering labors of the Rev. William Patton, D.D., who in March, 1820, commenced preaching to a mere handful of people in a school room in Mulberry Street, which he hired on his own responsibility. This he continued for one year, receiving no pecuniary compensation for his services.

His efforts were so blessed, that on January 8th, 1821, he called a meeting at his residence in Elm Street for the purpose of organizing a church. There were present on that occasion the Rev. William Patton, Rev. William Gray, Mr. John Proctor, Mr. Thomas Donaldson and his wife, and Mary, wife of the Rev. William Patton.

Having with appropriate solemnity implored the Divine blessing, they resolved to associate themselves into a visible church of Christ, whereupon Thomas Donaldson and John Proctor were chosen Deacons.

On March 21st, 1821, Samuel Hinman and John Proctor were elected Ruling Elders, and on April 3d of that year, at a meeting convened at the place of worship, it was

*Resolved:* that the Rev. William Patton be called to the pastorate of said church, at an annual salary of two thousand dollars, and that Lewis St. John be chosen chorister, at a salary of two hundred and fifty dollars.

The membership of the church increased rapidly, and the congregation determined to erect a church edifice. The site chosen was on the north side of Broome Street, between Marion and Elm Streets, seventy-five feet long and sixty feet wide. Sufficient funds having been subscribed the work was commenced, the corner-stone laid, and on May 7th, 1822, the church was opened for public worship.

On August 9th, 1854, the building was destroyed by fire but immediately rebuilt and enlarged at a cost of \$40,000, and on the following year was again open for service. This continued until the removal of the church to Fifty-seventh Street in October, 1866, while under the charge of the Rev. James Wilson, after which the building was sold and pulled down to make room for a business structure.

The Rev. William Patton, pastor of the church, having been appointed Corresponding and Pastoral Secretary of the Presbyterian Education Society, tendered his resignation, and, during the summer of

1834, was dismissed from his pastoral relations. His connection with the Education Society was brief. In 1835 he accepted a call from the Spring Street Presbyterian Church where he continued until 1846.

The ministry of Dr. Patton at Broome Street was remarkably successful. He began with five persons, but on leaving at the close of a pastorate of about fourteen years, nearly a thousand members had been enrolled on the church register, a majority of whom had been received on confession of faith.

On August 18th, 1834, an evening meeting was called to supply the vacancy occasioned by the retirement of the Rev. William Patton, D.D., at which Oliver Wilcox presided, and Robert M. Hartley was chosen Secretary. The attendance was large and the commissioners which had been previously appointed to select a candidate for the existing vacancy reported the name of the Rev. William Adams, of Brighton, Massachusetts, which nomination, after a careful consideration of his testimonials, was approved by the meeting, and the Rev. William Adams was chosen pastor by a unanimous vote.

The proceedings of the meeting having been certified by the signature of the Chairman and Secretary, they, conjointly with the Rev. William Adams, were appointed commissioners to present the call to the Presbytery, which was approved by that body September 15th, 1834. The communicants at this time

numbered 540. On June 24th, 1844, Dr. Adams, on account of ill health, asked an intermission of his ministerial labors for a season, which request was granted and he left the country for Europe where he remained about a year.

Under the pastorate of Dr. Adams the church received a fresh impetus; no church in New York City at that time exercised a wider or more commanding influence, not only in the city but throughout the country: the congregation was composed largely of the cultivated people of the town, prominent in every department of secular and religious activity.

These relations continued until the fall of 1853, when, in consequence of the large exodus of the people up-town, whereby the down-town churches became greatly weakened, on January 17th of that year Dr. Adams called a meeting of the male members of his church to decide on the expediency of his continuance as its pastor, inasmuch as an invitation had been extended to him to unite with those who were associated for the purpose of forming a new church in the upper part of the city and to consider the wisdom of consolidating the Central and Pearl Street churches—a matter which had been for some time under consideration.

Accordingly a committee was appointed to take up the question and report at a subsequent meeting of the congregation, such committee consisting of



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## HISTORICAL SKETCH

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Rev. WILLIAM A. HALLOCK	M. W. WILLIAMS
ROBERT M. HARTLEY	J. W. WEED
JAMES MORRIS	JOHN TEN BROOK
E. GOODWIN	NATHAN BROWN
GEORGE BACON	RITTER HADLEY
A. R. WETMORE	FREDERICK BULL

The report of this committee, submitted to the congregation January 21st, 1853, outlined a plan for uniting the Pearl Street and Central Churches, for continuing the ordinances of the gospel in the Broome Street Church and of aiding in the establishment of a new church in the upper part of the city.

On February 3d, 1853, a meeting of the Session of the Central Church was called at which Dr. Adams presided, the following named elders being present: Messrs. Blatchford, Hartley, Weed, Chester and Bull.

A communication having been received from the Pearl Street Church, in accordance with the foregoing views, it was ordered to be engrossed on the minutes of the Session, and the following action was taken on the subject:

*Resolved:* that R. M. Hartley, J. W. Weed and M. W. Williams be appointed commissioners to unite with the pastor, the Rev. Dr. Adams, in an application to the Fourth Presbytery, to dissolve his pastoral relations with this church.

The commissioners above named were moreover authorized by the Session to act in the matter of uniting the Pearl Street Church with the Broome

Street Church. This having been successfully accomplished, the Rev. A. A. Wood assumed the pastoral duties of the combined churches.

On the morning of the first Sabbath of February, 1853, the Rev. Dr. Adams delivered his last sermon from the pulpit which he had occupied more than eighteen years, taking his text from the Acts of the Apostles, 21st chapter, 17th to 21st verses.

In the afternoon the united churches assembled, when the Rev. Joel Parker, D. D., Moderator of the Fourth Presbytery, announced its action to be in accord with the request of the respective pastors and the commissioners associated with them, and the officers and members ratified the Presbyterian Act by a rising vote.

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NOTE: The Pearl Street Church was originally a colony from the First Associated Reformed Church in Cedar Street, of which the Rev. John Mason was pastor. A church edifice was erected on Magazine Street, now Pearl, in 1797, and Dr. Mason for a while officiated at both places. In 1804 the church became independent, taking the title of the "Second Associated Reformed Church," and the Rev. Robert Forest was called as its first pastor, succeeded later by Rev. A. A. Wood.

## Officers of the Central Presbyterian Church

### Pastors

Rev. WILLIAM PATTON, D.D.

“ WILLIAM ADAMS, D.D., LL.D.

“ A. A. WOOD

“ JAMES A. DUNN

“ JAMES D. WILSON

### Elders

(From 1822 to 1840)

SAMUEL HINMAN

JOHN PROCTOR

J. RUSSELL

HARLAN PAGE

OLIVER WILCOX

HENRY ABELL

RICHARD EVANS

ALEXIS BAKER

SAMUEL M. BLATCHFORD

WILLIAM J. BUCK

ROBERT M. HARTLEY

ROBERT O. DWIGHT

JOHN A. MORTON

GEORGE L. STORER

RUFUS L. NEVINS

GEORGE MATHER

CHARLES WILLIAMS

JOHN M. WEED, M.D.

JOSEPH HYDE

STEPHEN M. CHESTER

JAMES MORRIS

FREDERICK BULL

### Deacons

(From 1822 to 1840)

JOHN PROCTOR

THOMAS DONALDSON

GEORGE MATHEW

SAMUEL STILES

ALFRED EDWARDS

TIMOTHY CHAMPERTON

JAMES MORRIS

OLIVER HALSTEAD

OLIVER R. KINGSBURY

JOHN A. DAYTON

MUNSON LOCKWOOD

JAMES MILLER

R. C. ANDREWS

JOHN TEN BROOK

RITTER HADLEY

JAMES B. THOMPSON

M. W. WILLIAMS, M.D.

ISAAC FORD

HEZEKIAH D. SHARPE

In the winter of 1852-3, a number of persons, principally members of the Central Presbyterian Church in Broome Street, consulted together in reference to the foundation of a new church to supply more adequately the religious wants in what was then the upper part of the city.

This was not done without due consideration for the church with which they were at that time connected, and the section of the city in which it was then located. The result of their deliberation was such as to indicate the guidance of Divine Providence.

The Pearl Street Church, at the corner of Elm and Pearl Streets, on account of the great changes in that part of the city, was under the necessity of changing its location. This and the Central Church were not only of the same denomination, but belonged to the same Presbytery. After mature deliberation, it was resolved, with entire unanimity, that the churches should combine and form one new church to be designated as the Central Presbyterian Church, with Rev. A. A. Wood, then in charge of the Pearl Street Church, as pastor, and that a new church be erected in the vicinity of Madison Square, with the Rev. William Adams, D.D., LL.D., pastor of the Central Church, as its pastor. The former part of this arrangement was carried into immediate effect.

Dr. Adams' relation with the Central Church having been terminated February 4th, 1853, with a view

to his becoming pastor of the church to be newly organized in the vicinity of Madison Square, active measures were taken for the erection of the new church edifice. Meetings were held by those desirous of partaking in the new enterprise and subscriptions for a considerable amount secured.

On the eighth of February, 1853, at a meeting of the Session, an eligible site having been secured on the corner of Madison Avenue and Twenty-fourth Street, a building committee was appointed with George W. Lane as Chairman.

Having matured its plans, the new congregation commenced public worship in the chapel of the Union Theological Seminary, University Place, February 13th, 1853.

On the third of March a meeting was convened of those who purposed to identify themselves with the church organization. After appropriate services conducted by Dr. Adams, the meeting proceeded to the special business of the occasion. Mr. Frederick Bull was chosen scribe, and one hundred and thirty-one members of the Central Church, and eleven others belonging to seven different churches, unanimously  
RESOLVED:

*First*, that we whose names have been announced, associate ourselves as a visible Church of Christ.

*Second*, that we receive the system of Doctrine contained in the Confession of Faith of the Presby-

terian Church in the United States of America as our standard.

*Third*, that we cordially approve of the system of Government and Discipline of the Presbyterian Church, and adopt the same as ours.

*Fourth*, that the said church be designated as the Madison Square Presbyterian Church of the City of New York.

*Fifth*, that we now proceed to the election of officers, whereupon the following individuals were duly elected Ruling Elders:

JAMES MORRIS

SAMUEL M. BLATCHFORD

ROBERT M. HARTLEY

FREDERICK BULL

*Sixth*, that application be made to the Fourth Presbytery of New York to receive this church under its care, and that Robert M. Hartley and Charles A. Bulkley be commissioners for that purpose.

*Seventh*, that we now proceed to the election of a pastor.

The Rev. A. A. Wood of the Fourth Presbytery, being present by invitation, moderated the call of a pastor, which resulted in the unanimous election of Rev. William Adams, D.D., at a salary of three thousand dollars per annum, payable quarterly, the call to be signed by the Elders and presented before the Presbytery by Messrs. R. M. Hartley and Charles A. Bulkley as commissioners.





REV. WILLIAM ADAMS, D.D.



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## HISTORICAL SKETCH

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The call having been made out in the usual form was signed by

T. M. BLATCHFORD

S. M. CHESTER

R. M. HARTLEY

JAMES MORRIS

FREDERICK BULL

The Moderator endorsed the call as follows :

“This is to certify that the within call to the Rev. Dr. Adams, D.D., LL.D., is in accordance with the form of Government of the Presbyterian Church, and that it was entirely unanimous, and that Robert M. Hartley and Charles A. Bulkley were chosen commissioners to present the same before the Fourth Presbytery of New York.

(Signed) A. A. WOOD, *Moderator.*”

NEW YORK, March 3d, 1853.

The interesting solemnities and transactions of the evening were closed with prayer and the benediction by the Moderator, Rev. A. A. Wood.

The corner-stone of the new edifice was laid with religious exercises on the twelfth day of July, 1853. Underneath it was deposited a box containing a copy of the Holy Bible, printed the same year, together with a list of the names of the Pastor, the Elders, the Deacons and the building committee of the church.

On March 30th, 1853, the Session of the Madison Square Presbyterian Church held its first meeting at the house of the pastor, No. 601 Houston Street.

All the members were present, viz.: Rev. William Adams, D.D., Moderator; Elders Blatchford, Morris, Hartley, Chester and Bull.

The meeting was opened with prayer, and there were numerous applications for admission to membership, both by certificate and confession of faith.

The Session agreed to adopt the form of admission to membership that was used by the Central Presbyterian Church, and on motion it was

*Resolved*, That Frederick Bull be appointed Clerk of the Session, and as such be authorized to give letters of dismission, and furthermore that he be appointed Treasurer of the Session.

The following minutes were ordered to be entered upon the records, viz.:

That the Rev. William Adams, D.D., LL.D., was installed as pastor of this church, on Saturday evening, March 6th, 1853, on which occasion a sermon was preached by the Rev. James P. Wilson, D.D., Professor in the Union Theological Seminary, from the text in the Acts of the Apostles, 20th chapter, 27th verse: "For I have not shunned to declare unto you the whole council of God." The charge to the pastor was given by the Rev. A. A. Wood, and to the people by the Rev. T. H. Skinner, Jr. At the same time the Elders Elect, viz.: T. M. Blatchford, R. M. Hartley, S. M. Chester, James Morris and Frederick Bull were installed officers of

this church by the Rev. Dr. Wilson, all by appointment of the Fourth Presbytery of New York. The services were held in the Central Presbyterian Church, Broome Street.

The Session met at No. 601 Houston Street, June 9th, 1853, the moderator and all the members of the Session present. Many persons applied for membership by certificate, and on examination were received.

On June 14th, 1853, the Board of Elders was enlarged by the addition of Messrs. Treadwell Ketcham and Jesse W. Benedict; and the Board of Deacons by the addition of Messrs. John Ten Brook, George W. Lane and Charles H. Trask.

The congregation attending the ministration of the Rev. Dr. Adams having so increased in numbers as to render the chapel of the Union Theological Seminary inadequate to their accommodation, Hope Chapel, on Broadway, was placed at their disposal. The opportunity was promptly approved and the chapel engaged as a place of public worship for the term of one year from May 1st, 1853, or until the completion of the church edifice in course of erection on Madison Avenue and 24th Street.

### Officers

The Elders at this period (1853) were :

SAMUEL M. BLATCHFORD	FREDERICK BULL
STEPHEN M. CHESTER	ROBERT M. HARTLEY
JAMES MORRIS	TREADWELL KETCHAM
JESSE W. BENEDICT	

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## MADISON SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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### Deacons :

JOHN TEN BROOK	GEORGE W. LANE	} Subsequently elected Ruling Elders
	CHARLES H. TRASK	

### Trustees :

LUCIEN D. COMAN	EDMUND DWIGHT
GEORGE W. LANE	HENRY DWIGHT, JR.
JESSE W. BENEDICT	JOHN TEN BROOK
CHARLES GOULD	APOLLOS R. WETMORE
CHARLES A. BULKLEY	
HENRY DWIGHT, JR., <i>Chairman</i>	
GEORGE W. LANE, <i>Treasurer</i>	
JESSE W. BENEDICT, <i>Clerk</i>	

On December 24th, 1854, the new edifice being practically completed, (at a cost of about \$175,000), it was decided to take possession and to dedicate it to the worship of Almighty God.

NOTE: It may be proper to mention here, that the success of this new church enterprise so far as material results were concerned, was largely due to the chairman of the building committee, Mr. George W. Lane, and to Mr. Henry Dwight, Jr.

Notice of the completion of the church was given by the Rev. William Adams the preceding Sabbath in Hope Chapel. Special preparatory services were held on Friday, December 22d, in the morning for prayer by the Session and Deacons, in the afternoon by church and congregation, and in the evening the





MADISON SQUARE CHURCH  
The Old and the New

Central Church and congregation, by invitation, united with their pastor, Rev. A. A. Wood, who delivered a discourse appropriate to the occasion from the Book of Exodus, 33d chapter and 14th verse: "My presence shall go with you and I will give you rest."

The ensuing Sabbath a large congregation assembled in the morning to hear the Dedicatory Discourse by the Rev. William Adams, who took for his text the 14th verse of the 26th Psalm: "Lord, I have loved the habitation of thy house and the place where thine honor dwelleth." In the afternoon the Rev. George L. Prentice officiated, and in the evening the Rev. George W. Bethune, D.D.

After a pastorate of more than twenty years, Dr. Adams on November 19th, 1873, tendered his resignation in order to assume the duties of President of Union Theological Seminary and occupy the chair of Sacred Rhetoric. At the urgent request of the church, the pastoral relation was continued until April 3d, 1874, when it was dissolved by act of Presbytery.

On Sunday, April 19th, 1874, he preached his farewell sermon to the Madison Square Church congregation. He had presided over the Broome Street and Madison Square churches for somewhat over forty years and his sermon was devoted in the main to a retrospect of those years. It was based on the

8th Chapter of Deuteronomy, 2d verse ;—" And thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee and to know thee, to know what was in thine heart whether thou wouldst keep His commandments or no." He was installed as President of Union Theological Seminary on the 11th of May, which position he held until his death. He, however, continued his attendance upon the ministrations of his church until his removal to Orange Mountain, N. J., where he initiated church services and where eventually the residents erected a pretty stone chapel at St. Cloud, at which he occasionally officiated and which became his church home until his death on the 30th of August, 1880.

Although twenty-six years have elapsed since the death of Dr. Adams there are still some in the church and congregation who remember this beloved pastor. His public utterances were grand in thought and magnetic in effect and his social life always genial and companionable. The pulpit remained vacant until May 12th, 1875, when Rev. William J. Tucker, D.D., was installed as pastor. Dr. Tucker's pastorate was comparatively brief. On the 8th of October, 1879, he resigned in obedience to a call to the professorship of Sacred Rhetoric in Andover Theological Seminary, which position he subsequently left in order to become President of Dartmouth College.



He was succeeded by the Rev. Charles H. Parkhurst, D.D., who was installed March 9th, 1880. The sermon on that occasion was preached by Rev. Roswell D. Hitchcock, D.D., the charge to the pastor was given by Rev. Howard Crosby, D.D., the charge to the people by Rev. William J. Tucker, D.D.

Among those who have served the church as assistant ministers during Dr. Parkhurst's pastorate are the following: Rev. Sherrod Soule, now pastor of the Congregational Church of Naugatuck, Conn.; Rev. William R. Bennett, pastor of the Morristown First Presbyterian Church, Morristown, N. J.; Rev. Henry H. Tweedy, at present pastor of the South Congregational Church of Bridgeport, Conn.; Rev. Howard S. Bliss, president of the Syrian Protestant College, Beirût, Syria; Rev. J. H. Denison, pastor of the Central Congregational Church, Boston; Rev. DuBois S. Morris, working under the auspices of the Foreign Board of the Presbyterian Church and at present located at Hwai Yuen, China; Rev. George B. Spalding, recently called to the New England Congregational Church of Saratoga Springs, N. Y.; Rev. Edward H. Rudd, now pastor of the Congregational Church of Dedham, Mass.; Rev. William W. Coe, Managing Editor of the "Bible Record," and Rev. George R. Montgomery, the present incumbent, recently pastor of the Olivet Congregational Church of Bridgeport, Conn.

The following-named persons have held the position of Superintendent of the home Sunday School :

Mr. WILLIAM E. DODGE,	prior to 1872
Mr. JAMES A. PARSONS	. 1872-1875
Mr. CHARLES S. HURD	. 1875-1877
Mr. WILLIAM N. CRANE	. 1877-1881
Mr. WILLIAM P. ST. JOHN	. 1881-1886
Mr. JOHN C. COLEMAN	. 1886-1896
Rev. EDWARD H. RUDD	. 1896-1901
Rev. W. W. COE	. 1901-1905

Rev. GEO. R. MONTGOMERY is the present Superintendent.

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There follow herewith lists respectively of the members of the three Boards of the Church covering our entire history to the present time.

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### Trustees

Henry Dwight, Jr.	1853-1857
Lucian D. Coman.	1853-1864
Edmund Dwight.	1853-1861
George W. Lane.	1853-1885
Apollos R. Wetmore.	1853-1881
John Ten Brook.	1853-1891
Jesse W. Benedict.	1853-1865
Charles A. Bulkley.	1853-1886
Charles Gould.	1853-1863
Francis F. Marbury.	1857-1890
John Van Arsdale.	1861-1879
William C. Martin.	1862-1872
Amos T. Dwight.	1863-1881

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## HISTORICAL SKETCH

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Edmund D. Stanton.....	1865-1873
Morris Woodruff.....	1873-1886
David S. Egleson.....	1873-1897
Arthur B. Graves.....	1879-1897
William H. Ross.....	1881-1902
Charles W. Isham.....	1881-1885
D. Willis James.....	1885-1897
Ezra M. Kingsley.....	1885-1897
Frederick H. Cossitt.....	1886-1887
William C. Sturges.....	1886-
Benjamin G. Clarke.....	1887-1892
Charles H. Woodbury.....	1890-1893
Augustus D. Juilliard.....	1892-
Louis Lee Stanton.....	1892-
William E. Stiger.....	1893-
William N. Crane.....	1897-
Edward C. Bodman.....	1897-
Charles H. Ludington.....	1897-
Frederick Baker.....	1897-1903
Francis Louis Slade.....	1902-
Marcellus Hartley Dodge.....	1903-

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### Elders

March 3d, 1853

SAMUEL L. BLATCHFORD  
 FREDERIC K. BULL  
 STEPHEN M. CHESTER  
 ROBERT M. HARTLEY  
 JAMES MORRIS

June 14th, 1853

TREDWELL KETCHAM  
 JESSE W. BENEDICT

March 22d, 1861

OLIVER E. WOOD  
 EZRA M. KINGSLEY  
 AARON CARTER, Jr.  
 GEORGE W. LANE  
 CHARLES H. TRASK

December 7th, 1866

DAVID WETMORE  
 CHARLES COLLINS  
 WILLIAM E. DODGE, Jr.  
 JOHN F. TROW

December, 1872

HENRY IVISON  
 THEODORE W. DWIGHT, LL.D.  
 CHARLES H. TRASK (Re-elected)  
 W. C. MARTIN  
 WILLIAM N. CRANE  
 JOHN CROSBY BROWN  
 FRANCIS H. SLADE

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## MADISON SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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January 8th, 1879

ALBON P. MAN  
FRANCIS P. FREEMAN  
JOSEPH GILLET  
CHARLES H. WOODBURY

November 29th, 1882

EZRA M. KINGSLEY  
(Re-elected)

January 7th, 1885

D. WILLIS JAMES  
S. HASTINGS GRANT

December 8th, 1886

JOHN TEN BROOK

December 12th, 1888

CLARENCE E. BEEBE

December 10th, 1890

HORACE J. FAIRCHILD  
HENRY M. HUMPHREY

February 5th, 1893

FREDERICK C. COLTON

February 4th, 1894

WILLIAM E. STIGER

February 6th, 1898

CHARLES T. KISSAM  
J. H. C. NEVIUS

April 10th, 1901

EDWARD C. BODMAN  
ROBERT W. DEFORREST

April 5th, 1903

WILLIAM M. KINGSLEY

---

### Deacons

February, 1854

JOHN TEN BROOK  
GEORGE W. LANE  
CHARLES H. TRASK

April, 1861

W. E. DODGE, Jr.  
A. O. VAN LENNEP  
D. WILLIS JAMES  
DAVID WETMORE  
JOSEPH GILLET  
S. HASTINGS GRANT  
S. TYLER WILLIAMS

December, 1866

BENJAMIN S. WALCOTT  
FRANCIS H. SLADE  
W. C. MARTIN

January, 1873

FRANCIS P. FREEMAN  
ANSON PHELPS STOKES  
FRANCIS LEATHE  
THEODORE W. MORRIS  
EUGENE DELANO

January, 1877

CHARLES H. WOODBURY  
J. EDWARDS READ  
FREDERICK C. COLTON

January, 1878

DANIEL H. HASTINGS  
GEORGE H. SIPP

April, 1879

CLARENCE E. BEEBE  
HENRY DALE

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## HISTORICAL SKETCH

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November, 1879

J. ADAMS BISHOP

CHARLES H. PATTERSON

March, 1883

CLEVELAND H. DODGE

JOHN F. HARMON

January, 1885

WILLIAM P. ST. JOHN

December, 1886

CHARLES A. MUNGER

HENRY M. HUMPHREY

WILLIAM C. STUART

December, 1888

J. H. C. NEVIUS

TALBOT OLYPHANT

December, 1890

WILLIAM M. KINGSLEY

February, 1893

HENRY N. TIFFT

April, 1893

ARTHUR C. JAMES

April, 1895

CHAS. A. B. PRATT

FRANCIS L. SLADE

January, 1898

JAMES SLATER

CHARLES E. LAWTON

April, 1904

SETH SPRAGUE TERRY

ERNEST T. CARTER

ARTHUR C. LUDINGTON







REV. WILLIAM J. TUCKER, D.D.



## Memorial Chapel and Adams Memorial Church

HAVING greatly prospered in its own brief history, the church was early moved to make some expression of gratitude for the Divine favor which it had enjoyed, by special endeavors to benefit others who were without adequate religious instruction. Accordingly in the early months of 1855-6, systematic measures were inaugurated for the establishing of a mission chapel and Sabbath School commensurate with the wants of a large section on the eastern side of the city, lying along the East River between Twenty-third Street and Forty-second Street, and for that purpose the following committee was appointed:

ROBERT M. HARTLEY  
J. LOWERY

CHARLES GOULD  
GEORGE W. LANE

On entering upon their labors the committee soon found that the mission field had been wisely chosen, inasmuch as any manageable number of neglected children and adults who were unreached by any other Christian agencies, might there be gathered for religious instruction. The apartment first occupied for the purpose was a rough, uncomfortable room, which during week days was used as a carpenter shop, situated on the north side of Twenty-ninth Street, near Third Avenue.

The first scholars were mostly wild, uncontrollable children, who upon the first and second Sabbaths tore up and destroyed many of the Bibles and singing-books, rendering the presence of a policeman necessary to the maintenance of even tolerable order. Eventually, however, by special favor, the children were permitted temporarily to assemble in the public school building on Twenty-seventh Street, between Second and Third Avenues. Elder James Morris, whose long experience in Sunday School work, and whose Christian character eminently qualified him for the responsible position, was the first appointed superintendent, with his son, Theodore Morris, as assistant. In April, Mr. Morris died, and in May, Mr. William E. Dodge, Jr., was selected to succeed him.

But it eventually became evident to the committee having the matter in charge that it would be impracticable to continue the work so auspiciously begun and so full of promise for the future, unless the church, as such, became the owner of a building suitable for the purpose.

After mature deliberation, the Committee decided to recommend the purchase of a lot, forty by one hundred feet, situated on Third Avenue, between Thirtieth and Thirty-first Streets, and to erect thereon a suitable building; the lower floor to be rented for business purposes, and the upper stories to be appropriated to the object of the mission.

At a special meeting of the membership of the Madison Square Church, March 20th, 1857, this committee submitted its report which was accepted, and its recommendations adopted.

Funds being necessary for the purchase of the aforesaid lots, Elder J. W. Benedict and the Chairman of the Church Committee volunteered to solicit subscriptions for that purpose. The requested money was raised, the lots were purchased, and a building erected there at a cost of \$5,000.

The building was completed in January, 1858, and on Sabbath morning, January 10th, the commodious chapel was occupied by the Sunday School for the first time. On the following Sabbath morning, was held the first church service for adults, when a sermon was preached by Dr. Adams of the parent church. Similar services were held on succeeding Sabbath evenings, various ministers officiating.

In addition to the volunteer teachers and visitors employed in many offices of Christian kindness, in September, 1858, the Rev. William Hough was engaged as a supply to conduct regular public services and administer Sacraments at the usual services of public worship, and, on the evening of March 13th, 1859, was ordained as an Evangelist at the Madison Square Church by the Fourth Presbytery. Mr. Hough supplied the pulpit from March, 1858, to May 1st, 1859. May 17th, 1860, Mr. Hough left for a

vacation of six weeks, hoping thus to recruit his exhausted strength. But finding still further rest necessary, he tendered his resignation, which was accepted.

It was at this time that the Rev. Charles H. Payson, who had supplied the pulpit during the temporary absence of Mr. Hough, was invited to take his place, and accepted the call. He was ordained as an Evangelist at the Chapel, Sabbath evening, November 25th, 1860.

The opening exercises were conducted by the Moderator of the Presbytery, Rev. James H. Dwight, and the sermon preached by Rev. George L. Prentiss, D.D., Professor in the Union Theological Seminary, and formerly pastor of the Church of the Covenant of this city. The consecrating prayer was offered by the Rev. Henry B. Smith, Professor of Theology in Union Theological Seminary, accompanied by the laying on of hands by the Presbytery, after which a touching charge to the pastor was made by the Rev. William Adams, D.D., his peculiar relations as the head of the parent church giving to it very special interest.

During the summer of 1860, the same year in which Mr. Payson assumed the care of the mission, it became evident that the accommodations afforded by the chapel were insufficient for the growing demands of the work ; additions were accordingly made to the

chapel building, consisting of an extension of the main edifice some twenty-five feet in the rear, together with two wings, the one fronting on Thirty-first Street, the other on the opposite side of the chapel, each two stories high. These furnished rooms for the infant class on Sunday, and for social gatherings and prayer meetings during the week, as well as for a large and well-arranged Sunday School Library.

Once more the increased work of the mission called for enlarged accommodations. It was accordingly determined to dispose of the property on Third Avenue, and erect a new chapel on a site secured for that purpose on Thirtieth Street between Second and Third Avenues.

The cornerstone of the new chapel was laid by Rev. William Adams, D.D., with appropriate services, September 14th, 1874, and dedicated to the service of the Master, Easter Sunday, March 28th, 1875, on which occasion, Rev. Mr. Payson delivered a discourse, taking his text from Joshua iv. 7:—"These stones be for a memorial." It received the name of the Memorial Chapel. The building and foundation of the new chapel cost about \$60,000, and the land \$15,000, of which about \$12,000 was raised by the people at the mission, the remainder contributed by the Madison Square Church.

Another progressive step in the usefulness of this mission work on the East Side was the establishment

of a German congregation in 1869 to meet the wants of a large number of that nationality who were without church privileges. Mr. Payson's visit to Germany immediately after his graduation from the Theological Seminary enabled him to acquire a thorough knowledge of the German language and was of great service to him in winning the confidence of a large number of Germans resident in the immediate vicinity of the mission. For the sake of retaining them and their children, it was found desirable to organize a separate service and for this purpose to secure the assistance of a German pastor. This arrangement was consummated and in 1869 the Rev. Martin A. Erdmann was invited to that position. Nine years later, Mr. Erdmann was compelled by impaired health to relinquish his labors and died on the 1st of July, 1878. He was succeeded in the German work on the 27th of January, 1878, by the Rev. Louis Wolferz. The Rev. Mr. Payson for more than seventeen years presided over the Third Avenue Mission, receiving the hearty and liberal aid of the parent church. Under his ministry the mission became a strong institution and raised for its support, from its own members, between four and five thousand dollars annually,—what was still lacking being supplied by the Madison Square Church.

In the providence of God which proved that Mr. Payson's work was nearly done when he entered





ADAMS MEMORIAL CHURCH



with his flock into the new building, he was privileged to continue his services there scarcely two years and was then taken from the midst of abundant usefulness and widely extending labors while still in the fulness of life and with the best of his ministry yet in prospect. He died on January 24th, 1877.

Mr. Payson was succeeded by the Rev. Edgar A. Elmore, who, to this end, was ordained an evangelist May 15th, 1877. Mr. Elmore labored faithfully and successfully for nearly eight years, when failing health necessitated a change and he resigned. Since his resignation he has been, from 1885-8, pastor of the Third Presbyterian Church of Knoxville, Tenn., and is now pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Chattanooga, Tenn.

The vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Elmore was filled by the appointment of the Rev. Jesse F. Forbes, a graduate of Amherst College and, when called to New York, pastor of the First Congregational Church of Warren, Mass.

Previous to the coming of Dr. Forbes, the question had been raised and somewhat animatedly discussed whether the work of Memorial Chapel should be continued as a part of the Madison Square Church or whether the time had not come when worshippers at the Chapel should be organized and recognized as an individual church. Sentiment both at the Chapel and at the Madison Square Church inclined toward

the latter policy, and on the 11th of January, 1886, the following petition was presented to Dr. Parkhurst and by him laid before the Presbytery of New York City:—"We the undersigned members of Madison Square Church worshipping at the Chapel, respectfully request the Presbytery of New York to organize us into an independent Presbyterian church."

This petition was signed by more than one hundred members. Presbytery granted the request and appointed the following committee: Rev. C. H. Parkhurst, Rev. Jesse F. Forbes, Rev. J. R. Kerr, Rev. J. M. Worrall, with Elders W. C. Martin and W. F. Lee. This committee met at Memorial Chapel on January 21, 1886, and organized an independent church consisting of 276 persons dismissed from the Madison Square Church. The new church thus constituted selected for its name "Adams Memorial Presbyterian Church," in honor of Rev. Dr. William Adams, who for so many years had been pastor of the parent church.

On February 2d, 1886, pursuant to the call of Session, the congregation of Adams Memorial Church was convened for the purpose of electing a pastor. Dr. Parkhurst presided and the congregation made unanimous choice of the Rev. Jesse F. Forbes. This call was presented to Presbytery February 8th, 1886, and was placed in the hands of the pastor-elect, whose acceptance of the call having been signified by

him, Reverends Dr. Parkhurst, Francis Brown, Samuel D. Burchard and C. A. Stoddard were appointed a committee to install the pastor. The installation occurred on the 7th of March, 1886, when Dr. Parkhurst presided, preaching the sermon; Professor Brown offered the installing prayer, Dr. Burchard charged the pastor and Dr. Stoddard charged the people.

At this time also the German branch was organized as an independent church, under the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Wolferz, but from that time on ceased all connection with the Adams Memorial Church.







REV. C. H. PARKHURST, D.D.

## The Third Avenue Mission

THE success attained by the Memorial Mission on Thirtieth Street, and its consequent diminished need of the personal services of members of the parent church induced the enquiry whether some new enterprise might not be undertaken by us which should serve as an outlet to our unexpended Christian interest and energy. In the years '84 and '85 some experiments were tried along this line in the shape of boys' club work. A good many of the young men and women of our Church threw themselves devotedly and enthusiastically into the undertaking, but the feeling gradually took possession of all the participants that while the services rendered were profitable to those who rendered them and resulted in entertaining the recipients of our attentions, no permanent results were wrought in the characters of the boys gathered into the club and that there was little, if anything, to show for our outlay in time and money.

These experiments, however, had this much value, that they successfully demonstrated their fruitlessness and led to the conviction that if we were going to secure, among either young or old, effects that should have the quality of permanence, we must do work

that was more fundamental and think less about amusing people and more about gospelizing them.

With this object in view, a conference was held at the house of Dr. Parkhurst on the evening of November 15th, 1886. At this conference there were present beside Dr. Parkhurst, Messrs. J. Adams Bishop, E. W. Frost, William C. Stewart, A. T. Enos, William M. Kingsley, J. E. Reed, Howard S. Bliss, Henry M. Humphrey and W. H. Kingsley. Those present resolved themselves into a committee for the inauguration and maintenance of mission work on the east side of the town, and organized in the election of the following officers: Chairman, E. W. Frost; Treasurer, J. Adams Bishop; Secretary, H. M. Humphrey. Dr. Parkhurst and Dr. Bishop were made a committee on finance.

After careful inquiry, the building No. 386 Third Avenue was rented for six months from November 1st, 1886. The joint services of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Ballou as missionaries were secured at the rate of \$1,500 per annum, their year to commence December 1st, 1886. The several members of the committee pledged themselves to active coöperation with Mr. and Mrs. Ballou and made themselves responsible for the music, the ushering, etc., etc., one or more evenings being assigned to each: viz., to Dr. Parkhurst, Thursday and Saturday; to Mr. Frost, Sunday and Tuesday; to Mr. Stewart, Wednesday; to Messrs.



Kingsley and Humphrey, Monday; to Mr. Reed and Dr. Bishop, Friday.

The success of the work having been demonstrated, it was voted in January, 1887, to arrange if possible for a two years' extension of the lease of 386 Third Avenue. Negotiations proving unsuccessful, it was voted on the 19th of April of that year to lease for two years, 480 Third Avenue, which was effected.

At the meeting of the committee held May 2d, 1887, Mr. E. W. Frost resigned the chairmanship on account of his intended removal from the city. It was at that meeting that it was unanimously voted that the Mission be called the "Madison Square Church Mission." October 10th, 1887, Messrs. H. B. Twombly and William C. Hill were elected to membership on the committee. The annual budget at this time amounted to about \$6,000. For the purpose of soliciting subscriptions, the names of the congregation were divided among the different members of the committee.

May 1st, 1889, it was resolved to appropriate \$800 to the support of George Graff with the understanding that he should give half of his time to our mission work in aid of Mr. Ballou, and half of his time to study with a view to greater efficiency in evangelical work.

The name of Henry N. Tift as member of the committee first appears on the minutes of the meeting held December 16th, 1889.

In view of the continued illness of our Chairman, Mr. Read, it was voted January 12th, 1891, to create the office of vice-chairman and Mr. Henry N. Tiftt was elected to that office.

At the meeting of the committee held April 3d, 1891, it was voted to transfer our work to 430 Third Avenue and that the new building be known as the "Madison Square Church House." In November of the same year the committee inaugurated a line of kindergarten work under the direction of Miss Parsons.

Mr. and Mrs. Ballou resigned their position as superintendents early in 1892 and their resignation was accepted with an expression of deep regret on the part of the committee and of appreciation of their most faithful and efficient services. That which our Gospel work on Third Avenue has since become is due in very considerable measure to the secure and evangelical foundation laid for it by the Ballous in the six years that they were in charge.

Minutes of a meeting held March 15th, 1892, contain the following memorandum. "Dr. Parkhurst reported that George Graff had been secured as superintendent, and that, for assistant, consideration had been given to the name of a Miss Haines of Chicago, who had been connected with Graff in some work there." At the meeting following, definite engagement was reported as having been made with

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## HISTORICAL SKETCH

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Miss Haines. At the same meeting, Dr. Bishop resigned the treasurership of the committee and Mr. William M. Kingsley was elected to fill the vacancy so created. At about this time the Bureau of Information work was commenced under the charge of Mrs. G. L. Buckley.

The committee as constituted on January 7th, 1893, according to secretary's minutes as of that date, was as follows:—

REV. C. H. PARKHURST	R. M. MONTGOMERY
WILLIAM M. KINGSLEY	WILLIAM C. HILL
HENRY M. HUMPHREY	TALBOT OLYPHANT
WILLIAM C. STEWART	J. H. C. NEVIUS
J. ADAMS BISHOP	ARTHUR C. JAMES
HENRY N. TIFFT	HORACE J. FAIRCHILD

J. E. READ

In November, 1893, Mr. Tift, who had been acting chairman during the illness of Mr. Read, was at Mr. Read's death made chairman upon motion made by Mr. Kingsley and seconded by Mr. Olyphant. Anniversary exercises were held in November of that year and addresses delivered by Rev. Drs. Davis and Forbes, and by Messrs. John Crosby Brown and William E. Dodge.

In 1894 our work was moved to 384 Third Avenue under a lease of five years dating from April of that year. On July 1st, 1896, it was voted to discontinue the kindergarten work because of lack of money and want of room.

The name of Miss Boyden as possible candidate for the position of kindergartner is first mentioned in the secretary's minutes of a committee meeting held October 2d, 1896. Engagement was made with her to commence work October 19th, her class to be held at the Adams Memorial Church.

Mrs. Buckley was put at the head of the Bureau of Information November 1st, 1896, under the supervision of the Mission Committee.

On December 4th, 1896, it was reported from the Kindergarten sub-committee that it had been thought advisable that a ladies' committee of the Kindergarten should be appointed and that Mrs. Stanton had consented to serve as chairwoman of such committee.

In June of 1898 Mr. Graff, Superintendent, suddenly broke down in health and his place was temporarily filled by Rev. E.W. Bliss, with the understanding that his services were to continue till December 31st, 1898. At the meeting in October of that year Mr. H. M. Humphrey resigned the secretaryship and Mr. F. L. Slade was elected in his place.

The sudden death of Mr. Bliss, whose superintendency though brief had been singularly successful, created a vacancy not easily filled, and it was not till the first of March, 1900, that Mr. George A. Hilton commenced work as his successor, who, however, continued service only till near the close of 1901. Since that date we have been served by Rev. Lee

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## HISTORICAL SKETCH

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W. Beattie, who came to us recommended by Rev. Drs. Lyman Abbott and George Alexander.

The following is a statement of the present (January 25th, 1906) membership of the committee in charge of the Gospel work at the Church, together with its organization and the workers under its direction.

HENRY N. TIFFT . . . *Chairman*

WILLIAM M. KINGSLEY . *Treasurer*

FRANCIS LOUIS SLADE . *Secretary*

Rev. CHARLES H. PARKHURST, D.D.

WILLIAM C. STUART

MATTHEW BEATTIE

ARTHUR C. JAMES

E. C. BODMAN

J. H. C. NEVIUS

EUGENE DELANO

SETH SPRAGUE TERRY

J. E. MILHOLLAND

Rev. LEE W. BEATTIE - - - - - *Superintendent*

Miss E. L. HAINES - - - - - *Director of Women's Work*

Miss ANNA PARKER - *Director of Music and Children's Work*

Miss HELEN F. GRAND - - - - - *Visiting Nurse*

Miss I. V. WALDO - - - - - *Visitor*

During the superintendency of Mr. Beattie up to this time the work has been a steadily progressive one, no special changes having in the meantime transpired except in the matter of a change of domicile of which a detailed account follows.







CHURCH HOUSE  
Corner Thirtieth Street and Third Avenue



## Review of the History of the Madison Square Church House

**I**N October, 1898, owing to the urgent need of better and larger accommodations for the gospel meetings of our Third Avenue Mission, and for other enterprises auxiliary to the gospel work, and owing to the fact that our Kindergarten and Girls' Clubs were compelled to meet elsewhere for lack of proper quarters at No. 384 Third Avenue, a plan was set on foot to secure sufficient funds from the members of the Madison Square Presbyterian Church and others who might be interested, to build and equip a suitable building of our own, to house all the departments of our East Side work in one and the same building, and, under proper care and supervision, to allow also of resident settlement work there.

Having first received the approval, encouragement and assistance of Dr. Parkhurst, and the promise of generous support from certain interested friends, a subscription paper was started in January, 1899, to secure pledges for \$100,000.

When this sum had been secured by March, 1899, a Building Committee was appointed, consisting of Francis Louis Slade, Chairman ; William M. Kingsley, Secretary and Treasurer ; Robert W. de Forest, Charles H. Ludington, and Henry N. Tift.

After diligent and fruitless search on their part for some time for two suitable adjoining lots in the neighborhood of our former Mission, a specially desirable parcel of land on the northwest corner of Third Avenue and Thirtieth Street, approximately sixty by sixty feet, came unexpectedly into the market, owing to the assignment of its owner, and, after due consultation over the additional expense which would be necessarily incurred in purchasing this large piece of property, the Building Committee decided to buy this land for the sum of \$64,000, which sum, under the circumstances, was considered a very favorable figure.

Messrs. Howells & Stokes were selected as architects, and on account of their special interest in this kind of work, devoted themselves most whole-heartedly to the arrangement of all the details necessary for our special kinds of work.

The three old tenements occupying these lots were torn down, and work on the excavation and building was commenced in the first week of July, 1900, Mr. Charles T. Wills being the general contractor. As no special obstacles were encountered, the building progressed rapidly, so that by the time winter set in, it was roofed over.

The Church House contains the following rooms, arranged to meet our special requirements. On the ground floor, facing the main entrance, is the audi-

torium, where our daily evening gospel meetings are held, and where is also conducted an employment bureau in the morning, the Helping Hand Tuesday afternoons, Miss Parker's children's meetings other afternoons, and any other special meetings or entertainments. On either side of the main entrance are the two Superintendents' offices. On the second floor is a large kindergarten room; a corner room used for Bible Classes; the Crèche, the Medical Clinic, etc., and the Consultation Room, where the Trustees have their meetings, and where informal conferences are constantly held. On the third floor, along the entire front of the building, is a library and reading room. On this same floor are also the tastefully furnished Girls' Club rooms and class-rooms; a Boys' Club room, and women's bath-room. On the top floor is a modest gymnasium, with dressing room and shower baths adjoining; and separated from this, are quarters for the resident workers, arranged like a modern flat. On the roof is a roof-garden or playground for children. In the basement, the Working Men's League has a large room, which is open all the time for its members; a Boys' Club room, and, off it, a room for manual training and carpentry; the janitor's quarters; heating plant, etc. Toilet rooms are provided on each floor, except the first. The entire building is fire-proof, and was constructed of the best materials, which resulted, however,

in the expenditure for land, building and furnishings, of a total sum amounting approximately to \$150,000. The additional money required was raised in two later special subscriptions, largely from the same contributors, the final sum being paid out of the Easter collection of April 12th, 1903. The property is now free and clear of all indebtedness.

The building was completed and turned over by the Building Committee on March 30th, 1901, to the following Board of Trustees :

Dr. Charles H. Parkhurst, Henry N. Tift, Robert W. de Forest, Eugene Delano, William M. Kingsley, Arthur C. James, William C. Stuart, E. C. Bodman, and Francis Louis Slade, who had been designated in the articles of incorporation as the first Trustees ; the incorporation having taken place on the 19th day of December, 1900, with the following gentlemen as incorporators : D. Willis James, Henry N. Tift, William M. Kingsley, Robert W. de Forest, Henry M. Humphrey, J. H. C. Nevius, Henry V. Parsell, Eugene Delano, Arthur C. James, Edward C. Bodman, Dr. Charles H. Parkhurst, John S. Kennedy, William C. Stuart, Charles H. Ludington, and Francis Louis Slade.

The acceptance of the building by the Board of Trustees, and its formal devotement to Christian uses, was occasion of a large gathering of our church people and of those interested in the work, on the

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THE MADISON SQUARE CHURCH HOUSE

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evening of March 30th, 1901, when the building was thrown open for inspection. The services on the occasion consisted of :

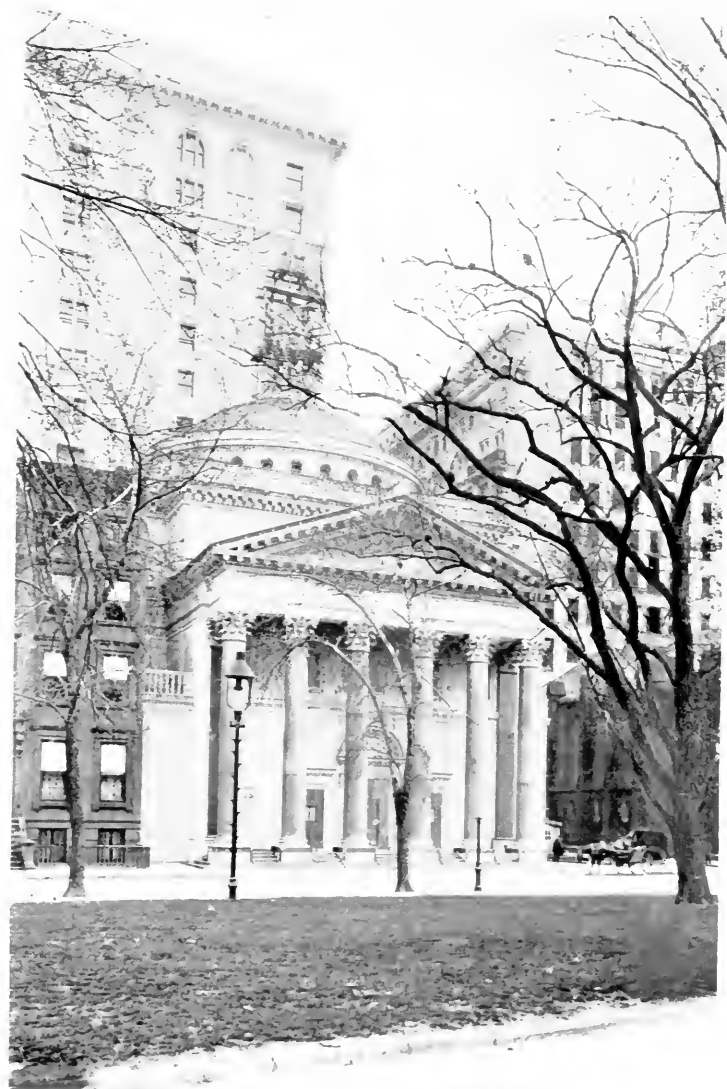
Reading of Scripture.....	{	REV. JESSE F. FORBES, Pastor of Adams Memorial Church.
Prayer.....	{	GEO. A. HILTON, Superintendent of the Gospel work.
Transfer of Building to Board of Trustees.....	{	FRANCIS LOUIS SLADE, Chairman of Building Committee.
Acceptance of Building.....	{	ROBERT W. DE FOREST, Chairman Board of Trustees.
Brief Address and Prayer of Dedication.....	{	Rev. CHAS. H. PARKHURST.
Address.....		ROBERT W. DE FOREST.

At the exercises, held in the evening of the same day, the auditorium was packed by an appreciative audience of our Third Avenue Mission people.

The new building affords healthful accommodations that are specifically adapted to each of the various lines of our work, and in the five years of its existence only slight modifications in the building equipment and in the arrangements were needed to meet satisfactorily all the demands of our work ; so that we feel that the Madison Square Church House has fully answered all the high expectations of those who planned it and made its construction possible.







THE PRESENT CHURCH



## The Erection of the New Church

AS early as 1896, the question began to be considered whether, owing to the erection and extension of the Metropolitan Life Insurance building commenced in the spring of 1890, it would not be to our interest as a church to build elsewhere if a suitable site could be found on Madison Square or in its neighborhood. The rumor having reached us that the Insurance Company was itself desirous of securing our property and of extending its building to cover the entire block, a joint conference of our Elders and Trustees was called to discuss the situation. This conference was held on the afternoon of May 14th, 1894, but was adjourned to May 21st, when Mr. D. Willis James was chosen Chairman and Mr. William E. Stiger, Clerk. After consultation, it was unanimously agreed that we would not entertain the idea of "moving uptown," and the only additional action taken was to empower the Chairman to select one of the conferees to make enquiries as to whether three suitable contiguous lots were obtainable elsewhere on the Square or upon some street or avenue adjacent thereto. Mr. A. D. Juilliard was appointed for that purpose, but as he was unable to serve, Mr. James made subsequent selection of Mr.

William C. Sturges. No property of the desired kind was found obtainable and the matter rested at that point.

Several years passed during which the congregation became increasingly restive under the growing encroachment of our neighbor's building operations, for while we could not deny the elegance of the structure they were erecting, it none the less on that account excluded what we considered our fair share of light and air, and by force of contrast practically destroyed the architectural grace and dignity of our church.

The first definite overtures looking to the purchase of our property and the sale to us of the lots opposite were made to Mr. William C. Sturges, Chairman of our Board of Trustees, by a representative of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, in May of 1902. The matter was informally considered during the season following and it was not until the autumn of that year (1902) that definite action was taken in the shape of a conference called at the office of Mr. Sturges, 74 Wall Street, on October 24th.

At this conference there were present Mr. Wm. C. Sturges, in the chair, and Messrs. D. Willis James, John Crosby Brown, Wm. N. Crane, John S. Kennedy, E. C. Bodman, F. L. Slade, Ambrose K. Ely, F. C. Colton, D. T. Warren, R. W. de Forest, Wm. E. Stiger, Charles T. Kissam, L. L. Stanton and W. M. Kingsley.

Invited to attend but not present: Rev. C. H. Parkhurst, Messrs. C. H. Ludington, A. D. Juilliard and J. E. Milholland.

Mr. Kingsley was appointed Secretary of the meeting.

Mr. Sturges stated that after several conferences with representatives of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, the Company had submitted plans of a church and chapel to be erected on lots on the northeast corner of Madison Avenue and Twenty-fourth Street, inquiring whether the Church would accept the same with the lots in exchange for the present site opposite; and that the object of this conference was to obtain the views of members as to the course to be pursued and the response to be made.

The following letter from Dr. Parkhurst was read:

New York, Oct. 21, 1902.

133 East 35th Street.

My dear Mr. Stiger:

I thank you for your invitation to the Conference to be held on Thursday. Unfortunately for me, however, I engaged to be in Massachusetts on that day by appointment made some time since and beg that you will make my excuses to the gentlemen who may be present on that occasion.

In view of my profound interest in the matter that is to be considered at that time, shall I be too presuming if I express to you my opinion on three points as follows :

1. If men like those who are to participate in the Conference are substantially of one mind in regard to the matter in question, they can rely undoubtedly upon the concurrence of the congregation and need not spend very much time in getting a census of opinion before making an initial move.

2. The congregation, through a properly constituted committee, should have the charge of church erection and not leave it in any manner in the hands of the Metropolitan Insurance Company.

3. Although that Company is anxious to become possessed of our lot, and although we have pretty effectively 'cornered' them, yet it would be unfortunate to lose the present chance of bettering ourselves by imposing upon them extreme or inflexible conditions more strenuous than they could be brought to concede to.

Anticipating a favorable issue of the Conference,  
I am,

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) C. H. PARKHURST.

After general discussion, Mr. Stiger offered the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That a proposition to exchange the property belonging to the Madison Square Presbyterian

Church at the southeast corner of Madison Avenue and Twenty-fourth Street for the property at the northeast corner of Madison Avenue and Twenty-fourth Street, together with an amount in cash sufficient to properly erect and equip a suitable church edifice and chapel thereon with a reasonable amount for church purposes, would be favorably received and recommended to the congregation for favorable action.

*Resolved further*, That a committee of five be appointed by the Chairman of this meeting, the Chairman to be one of such committee, to formulate the terms upon which such exchange would be approved and recommended for action, and that such committee be authorized to conduct such negotiations relative to the matter as may be necessary.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Stanton, and after further discussion was adopted unanimously.

The meeting adjourned.

W. M. KINGSLEY,  
*Secretary.*

The above-mentioned committee, constituted as ordered by the Conference, consisted of Mr. William C. Sturges, Chairman, and Messrs. D. Willis James, John Crosby Brown, William E. Stiger and John S. Kennedy.

As a result of the conference between representatives of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company and the committee appointed to represent the Madi-

son Square Presbyterian Church, the following action was taken at a meeting of the Trustees of said church, held January 23, 1903 :

*Resolved*, That a Special Corporate Meeting of the Madison Square Presbyterian Church be held in the Church on Monday, February 2d, 1903, at 4:30 o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of considering and acting upon a proposition to sell and convey the property of the said church, situated at the southeast corner of Madison Avenue and Twenty-fourth Street, in the Borough of Manhattan, City of New York, and to acquire, in part payment therefor, the property situated at the northeast corner of Madison Avenue and Twenty-fourth Street, in the Borough of Manhattan, City of New York; and, if such sale be approved and consented to, to authorize the Board of Trustees of this church to execute and deliver all necessary contracts and other instruments in writing and to take all such measures as may be proper to consummate such sale; and further, if such sale be approved, to consider and take action upon a proposition to erect a church edifice and chapel on the said property, so to be acquired as aforesaid; and to take such further or other action in relation to the premises as may be deemed necessary.

Notice of such special corporate meeting was read from the pulpit on the two following Sabbaths, and the meeting was held in the Lecture Room of the church, February 2d, at 4:30 o'clock. It was called to order by Mr. William N. Crane, who nominated

as Chairman Mr. William C. Sturges, who was duly elected. Mr. William M. Kingsley was elected Secretary. Prayer was offered by Dr. Parkhurst. Resolutions, giving the consent of the corporation to the sale of the property of the church situated at the southeast corner of Madison Avenue and Twenty-fourth Street, to the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company in consideration of the conveying to the corporation of the property situated at the northeast corner of Madison Avenue and Twenty-fourth Street and the payment of the sum of \$325,000 cash, were offered by Mr. Ezra M. Kingsley, who moved their adoption. (This was the last public service rendered by our respected and beloved friend, Mr. Ezra M. Kingsley.)

The above motion having been seconded, letters were read from Mr. D. Willis James and Mr. John Crosby Brown in which was expressed their hearty approval of the proposed sale, after which the resolutions proposed by Mr. Kingsley were unanimously adopted.

Resolutions in the following terms, providing for the erection of a new church edifice, were offered by Mr. Frederic C. Colton, which were seconded and adopted:

*Whereas*, This corporation has given its assent to the sale and conveyance of its property situated at the southeast corner of Madison Avenue and Twenty-

fourth Street, in the Borough of Manhattan, to the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company in consideration of the sum of Three hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars (\$325,000) in cash and the conveyance to this corporation of the property situated at the northeast corner of Madison Avenue and Twenty-fourth Street, in said Borough; the dimensions thereof being about seventy-four (74) feet on Madison Avenue and one hundred and fifty (150) feet on Twenty-fourth Street; and

*Whereas*, The said northeast corner of Madison Avenue and Twenty-fourth Street is an admirable location for a church, and is well adapted to the requirements of this corporation; and it is deemed eminently desirable that this church shall remain in the section of the city, where, for nearly fifty years, it has stood as a power for righteousness; and

*Whereas*, The New York Presbytery has duly approved of said new location:

*Now, therefore, be it resolved*, That upon title being acquired to the said property at the northeast corner of Madison Avenue and Twenty-fourth Street, this corporation do proceed, without unnecessary delay, to erect thereon a church edifice and chapel of suitable character and dimensions, and to furnish and equip the same; and

*Be it further resolved*, That we recommend to the Board of Trustees that, in appointing a Building Committee, they include among the members thereof







REV. JESSE F. FORBES, PH.D.

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## HISTORICAL SKETCH

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the following-named gentlemen: Messrs. John Crosby Brown, D. Willis James, John S. Kennedy, William M. Kingsley and Louis C. Tiffany.

At a meeting of the Trustees held three days later, namely, February 5th, the Chairman and Clerk of the Board were authorized, conditional upon the approval of the sale by the Supreme Court, to make and execute all contracts and other instruments in writing and to take all such measures as might be necessary and proper to consummate the sale.

The Building Committee as finally organized was composed as follows:—

EDWARD C. BODMAN, *Chairman*

WILLIAM M. KINGSLEY, *Vice-Chairman*

FRANCIS L. SLADE, *Secretary and Treasurer*

JOHN CROSEY BROWN

JOHN S. KENNEDY

ROBERT W. DE FOREST

CHARLES H. PARKHURST

D. WILLIS JAMES

WILLIAM E. STIGER

ARTHUR C. JAMES

WILLIAM C. STURGES

LOUIS C. TIFFANY

The first meeting of the Building Committee was held at No. 72 Wall Street on April 7th, 1903, at which was effected a permanent organization as stated above.

The following-named gentlemen were appointed a committee to consider the selection of an architect and report at a later meeting of the general com-

mittee :—Messrs. R. W. de Forest, L. C. Tiffany, Arthur C. James, E. C. Bodman, *ex-officio*, to which was added at a subsequent meeting Rev. C. H. Parkhurst.

At the meeting of the said committee held three weeks later, that is, April 28th, Mr. de Forest, as Chairman of the Committee appointed to recommend an architect, submitted a very full report recommending the selection of McKim, Mead and White, with a statement of the reasons for such choice.

The further report of said committee on architecture and plans, submitted at a meeting of the full Board on May 28th, was to the effect that conference had been had with Messrs. McKim, Mead and White, that said firm of architects had acceded to the proposition made them, with an agreement to prepare plans for the new church under the terms specified, with the understanding that the sum which the church could expend did not exceed \$325,000. Mr. White then came before the committee and submitted a general scheme of construction, the elements of which were a bold portico and front, a dome above, the exterior materials to be brick and terracotta and the columns of marble and granite, which scheme in its main features was approved by the Building Committee.

The committee met again on the 6th of January, 1904, and at that time a committee of three consisting of Dr. Parkhurst, Messrs. A. C. James, William M. Kingsley, with Mr. E. C. Bodman as *ex-officio* member, was appointed to report on an organ for the new edifice and given power to sell our present organ and church furniture.

The Organ Committee reported to the general committee on March 7th, recommending the acceptance of the specification by the Hutchings-Votey Organ Co., which recommendation was accepted by the committee. At this later meeting an executive committee was on motion appointed, consisting of the Chairman and Messrs. Kingsley, A. C. James, F. L. Slade and Dr. Parkhurst, with full power to act and for the special purpose of having oversight of the building contracts.

On May 25th, 1904, the committee accepted the building contracts drawn by McKim, Mead & White and accepted by Mr. Wills, builder, and authorized its execution.

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(At this date, September 28th, 1906, the building is nearly completed, and notice has been given of its Dedication, October 14th, 1906.)



## Endowment of the Madison Square Church

ONE of the most serious difficulties to which all churches situated below Forty-second Street are now or soon will be subjected is the up-town drift of our city population. If all those migrating left part of their church loyalty and church money behind them, the strain upon the down-town churches would be less severe, but a considerable element of them take all their ecclesiastical affections and funds with them, and leave their church home to do the best it can under reduced conditions. It was in view of this situation that a number of years ago the question was raised among the members of our church of creating an Endowment Fund, the income of which should be availed of to supplement the contributions of existing members, so enabling the church to maintain itself at its present scale of expenditure and to have secured to it a pledge of continued activity and usefulness for the years to come.

It was not, however, till 1897 that the matter began to be seriously considered, but the disturbed condition incident to the Spanish-American war of the year following rendered necessary the postponement of definite action. At the close of the war and

early in 1900, the matter was again taken up in a conference held at the residence of the late Marcellus Hartley and participated in by Messrs. Hartley, D. Willis James and Dr. Parkhurst. At this conference there was entire agreement as to the necessity for such endowment, the only question being as to the best means of its accomplishment. Subsequently a conference was held at the residence of D. Willis James, Esq., at which were present Messrs. James, John Crosby Brown, William E. Stiger and Dr. Parkhurst. It was then determined that the time was opportune for action and it was agreed that no less a sum than \$200,000 should be raised for the purpose. An appeal and subscription paper were accordingly prepared and circulated; the contract by which subscribers bound themselves containing, among others, these four express conditions:

FIRST: That the said Fund so constituted shall be set apart and forever appropriated as a fund to be known as the "Permanent Endowment Fund of the Trustees of the Madison Square Presbyterian Church in the City of New York."

SECOND: That the said Fund shall be kept safely and securely invested and that the income thereof, but only the income thereof, shall be applied to the support and maintenance of the said party of the second part according to its corporate uses and purposes, or to the Support and Maintenance of any Corporation of which it shall form a part by means of consolidation.



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## HISTORICAL SKETCH

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THIRD: That the principal of said Fund shall forever be kept inviolate and shall not at any time hereafter be expended or appropriated for any purpose whatever.

FOURTH: In case the said The Trustees of the Madison Square Presbyterian Church in the City of New York, shall at any time cease to exist, or shall remove from that portion of the Borough of Manhattan lying South of the middle line of what are now known as East and West Forty-second Streets, then and in that event, inasmuch as the purposes for which the said Fund will have been constituted will be impossible of accomplishment, all estate, right, title, interest and claim of the said The Trustees of the Madison Square Presbyterian Church in the City of New York, in and to said Fund and to each and every part thereof, shall immediately cease and determine and the said The Trustees of the Madison Square Presbyterian Church in the City of New York, shall forthwith pay over the said Fund and each and every part thereof to the Presbyterian Hospital in the City of New York and the same shall thereupon be and become the absolute property of the said Presbyterian Hospital in the City of New York, and to it we and each of us give the same.

The action thus unofficially taken was, at the meeting of the Trustees of this church held January 16th, 1901, formally approved, responsibility for the safe-guarding of the funds assumed by the Trustees, and Mr. William C. Sturges, Chairman of the Board, and Mr. William E. Stiger, Clerk of the same, appointed a special committee to take entire charge of and invest the moneys contributed toward, and constituting the Fund.

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## ENDOWMENT OF THE MADISON SQUARE CHURCH

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According to the report made to the Trustees, March 13th, 1902, by the special committee having the matter in charge, the total subscription as of that date, together with the accrued interest amounted to \$167,910.70.

On the morning of Easter Sunday, April 12th, 1903, an appeal was made for an offering of \$40,000 of which \$15,000 should be used in discharging the mortgage indebtedness on the Church House and the balance applied to the Endowment Fund. The amount of the offering was \$42,545.56, from which subtracting the aforesaid \$15,000 there remained a balance of \$27,545.65 to be added to the Endowment Fund.

On the 1st of January, 1905, the gross amount of contributions towards Endowment re- ceived up to that date was . . . . .	\$189,795.56
The amount of accrued interest to that date was	<u>27,543.93</u>
The grand total as of January 1st, 1905, being	\$217,339.49

*The pages which follow are devoted to a brief account of some of the lines of work that are being prosecuted either on the Square or at Third Avenue.*



## The Ladies' Association

THE Ladies' Association was formed in 1882, and organized in the election of Mrs. C. H. Parkhurst, President; Mrs. C. H. Ludington, Vice-President; Mrs. Martha J. Lamb, Secretary. Its object, as expressed in Article 2 of its Constitution, is "to unite the interests of the several charitable organizations maintained by the ladies of this church; to widen the influence and usefulness of these organizations by extending a knowledge of their work and interest; to secure the coöperation of those ladies whose interest is not already enlisted; to welcome strangers and cultivate social intercourse among members of the church and congregation; and, as opportunity may suggest, to devise new lines of work." Of the twenty-five original officers and managers, nine are still on the list.

The five societies already actively at work in the church and combined to form the association were, the Home Missionary Society, Foreign Missionary Society, Employment Society, Industrial School and Band of Ministering Children.

During the first year of its organization, the Loan Relief Society was formed, making six, whose record of work was included in the first annual report of the Ladies' Association at the close of the winter of 1883.

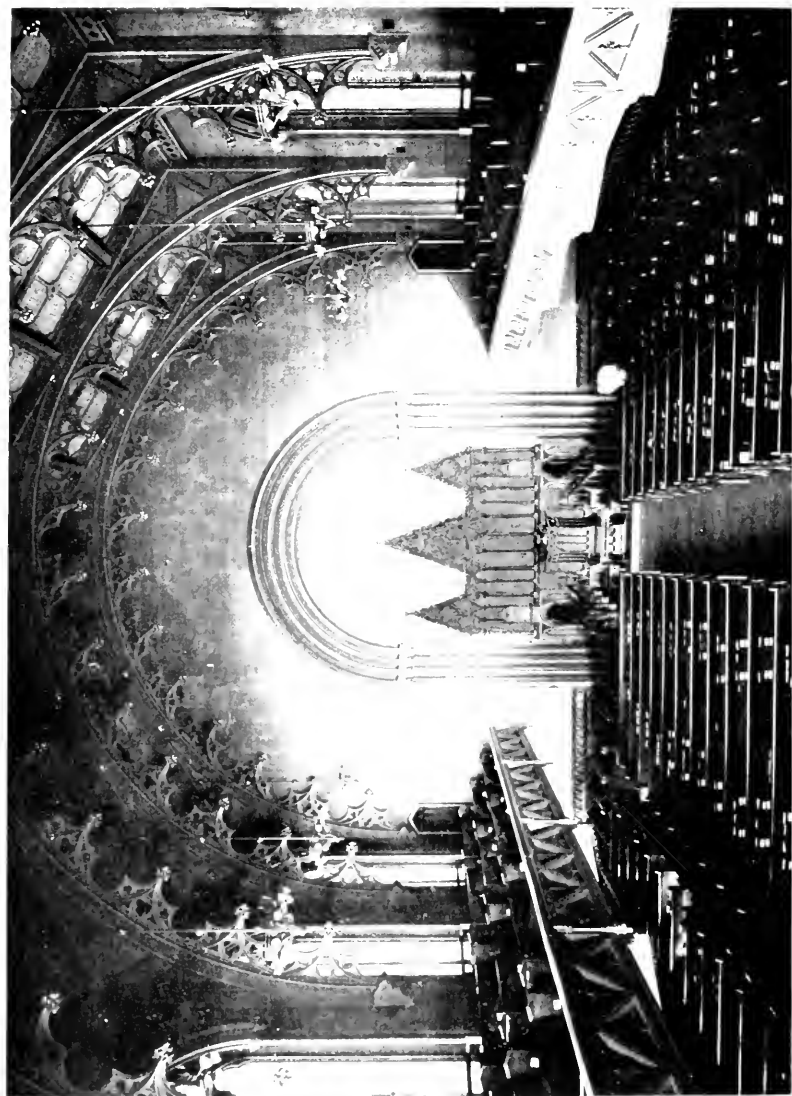
Among those who were officers of the several societies at that time, occur the names of Mrs. William H. Wickham, Mrs. William Dowd, Mrs. Mary Hartley Brown, Mrs. William H. Barbour, Mrs. A. B. Wetmore, Mrs. C. H. Patterson, Mrs. F. E. Fairchild, Mrs. H. C. Eno, Mrs. A. D. Juilliard, Mrs. J. E. Byrne, Mrs. A. A. Pratt, Miss Helen Barney, Mrs. Frances P. Freeman, Mrs. Arthur B. Graves, Mrs. Charles S. Spencer, Mrs. N. A. Coudrey. Several of these names we find still among the working force of the organization, while many others have passed on to the field of larger opportunity.

The Home Missionary Society at that time reported contributions amounting to \$583, used in fitting out boxes for Home Missionaries, and in the erection of a church building in Indian Territory. In 1905 this amount had grown to \$1,662.

The Foreign Missionary Society announced their gifts as then amounting to \$355, which sum was applied to the salary of Miss Bushnell in Africa, and to the maintenance of hospital beds at Ooroomiah, Persia. This present year the treasurer's report shows \$4,125, which is employed in paying the salaries of six missionaries, contributing to the general fund and to scholarship and educational work.

The Employment Society reported thirty-four women employed and about \$300 received from subscriptions. Nineteen hundred and five showed





INTERIOR OF THE OLD CHURCH



seventy-six women given work, whose pay was made up from an appropriation of \$850 from the Church Budget.

The Industrial School was carried on in the Adams Memorial Church at small expense by individual subscriptions. There were 113 children on the roll and twenty-two regular teachers, which is an advance over the present conditions in the Sewing School at the Church House.

The Band of Ministering Children was formed in November, 1882, and made an excellent showing at the end of the winter, in having a sale from which was realized over \$500, to be used for Fresh Air work and in other offices for poor and sick children of the East Side.

In 1883 the Loan Relief Society was organized for the purpose of lending a helping hand to those requiring assistance, it being understood that some equivalent return should be made for help rendered. The working capital of nearly \$500 was subscribed, which has been turned over and over each year since the formation of the society. This was used for the purchase of coal at a minimum price, and for its re-sale to the people of the Adams Memorial Church and Mission at the same rate; also for loaning small sums under guarantee of repayment. Other departments of the Loan Relief Society work were Visitation, Legal Aid and Medical Aid, with a staff of

physicians who volunteered their service. These latter lines were prosecuted until there seemed no farther necessity for them, and the Coal Club now remains as epitomizing the Loan Relief Society, and continues its splendid work in the interest of our East Side people.

The summing up of the financial statements of the societies combined in the Association in 1883, amounted to \$1,763, not including the working capital of the Loan Relief Society. Nineteen hundred and five showed an aggregate of very nearly \$13,000.

In 1884 the McAll Mission to France was for the first time represented in the Association by managers, and, in 1891, the Union Missionary Society and the Woman's Branch of City Missions.

Since the Association was formed in 1882, several societies have had an existence of a longer or shorter duration. As, for example, the Mothers' Association, which was formed to aid young mothers of our own congregation in the bringing up of their children. In the same year was formed the Band of Christian Workers from among the children of the church. Two years later the Family Visitation Society came into existence, and for several years was of great service to our Church House workers, in keeping church and mission families in close touch with each other and in finding employment for the needy

through the Information Bureau. In 1895 the Helping Hand was received into our organization. It, too, had had an individual existence since 1889.

The first report of the Junior Guild bears the date of 1896, though giving evidence of previous existence. It was composed of young ladies of the church, and had a three-fold object,—City, Home and Foreign Missions. The Church House was the immediate field of city work, and brought its members and our East Side work into closer relations than before. The Needle Work Guild devotes itself to securing and distributing garments for the needy poor, and is represented in the Association in its report of 1898, as were shortly after, the Kindergarten and the Children's Sewing School.

The Family Visitation Society, as such, has disbanded, but its work is, in some of its departments, still maintained in the Information Bureau, and the visiting of families, while not reported, is carried on by individuals, under the leadership of Miss Haines.

The Junior Guild has become the Junior Association, giving its entire energies to various phases of work in the Church House. A trained nurse is under its care; it provides the Christmas tree for the children; it also maintains a club and classes for young girls, and is altogether a most valuable auxiliary to the spiritual work of the Madison Square Church House.

The Prospect Hill Working Girls' Club was opened in 1886. Previous to that time attempts had been made, but unsuccessfully, to hold together the working girls of the East Side in a club. The present organization only dates back to 1889. It was formed and carried on for many years by members of our church, but the older members of the club have more and more assumed the responsibility, until, at the present time, it is largely in the hands of the working girls themselves.

Up to the year 1886, each society had used its own separate method for collecting funds; the church was partially canvassed for each cause. In that year, a plan for combined effort was devised by the Home and Foreign Mission Societies. The church was districted, collectors supplied from our own members and a systematic canvass of the whole congregation effected. The result was eminently successful, increasing the amounts received for each of the causes. Previous to that the managers for the French work in Paris, called the McAll Mission, had canvassed the church in much the same way. Subsequently, in consultation with the officers of the three above-named societies and the representatives of the Women's Branch of City Missions, a combined canvass was decided upon, which has been in operation to this date, 1906.

## The Employment Society

THE beginning of the Employment Society takes us almost as far back as the beginning of the Mission Sunday-school, from which came the Adams Memorial Church. During the Civil War, many of the ladies of the church co-operated in making garments for the soldiers. It seems to have been the suggestion of Mr. Theodore Roosevelt, the father of the present President, that this work of patriotism could be combined with the Mission work, and he interested the ladies of the church in providing sewing for the wives and the sisters of the men who had gone into the army. Out of this interest grew the Employment Society, among whose prime movers were Mrs. Bixby, Mrs. Ely, Miss Gilman, Mrs. Lyon, Mrs. Martin and Mrs. William Wells. Each member contributed fifteen dollars, enough to pay for the work of one woman during the season.

The work was given out every week from the Mission Chapel on Third Avenue, and each woman on returning the work that had been given her received fifty cents (afterward increased to seventy-five cents). During the war all the garments and sheets made were given to the army. After the war the garments were as far as possible sold. A report made in 1890, speaking of those days says : " Many

of these women were from the very poor and most of their work was badly done, therefore unsalable and had to be given away. This was especially discouraging, as the material used was then forty cents per yard, and the few ladies who were active in the society labored diligently to cut and prepare the sewing for the fifty women then employed. . . . The society was re-organized in 1872, and a little book of by-laws published. For these items of interest we are indebted to our president, Mrs. Bixby, who has filled that position most faithfully ever since the formation of the society nearly thirty years ago."

Another account says: "The wife of the janitor used to sell some garments during the week, and at one time women peddlers came to get clothes which they could carry from house to house, a relief to our crowded shelves, but not altogether pleasant to deal with. . . . I remember expeditions down town to purchase goods, several pieces at a time from Lathrop & Ludington, and having great bundles sent to our house to be distributed among the cutters. My mother was sometimes one of them; Mrs. Bogert another, a tall Mrs. Collins another, and Mrs. Slade, who was by no means tall. This gave us patterns of various sizes. Miss J. L. Daggett was, I think, another. Some of the garments were cut at the rooms, but that was distracting, when work must be received and inspected and paid for and a fresh supply given

out at the same time. Mrs. William G. Lyon was another cutter. Mrs. D. Willis James used to come and help wind thread to put with the bundles of work, and Bella Jones worked there with me."

In still another account we are told: "At that time and indeed for many years after, even in my day, the garments were so badly made that we could not sell them at all. Now not a garment goes on the shelves that cannot be sold and worn, and much of the work is ordered work by other charity institutions and hospitals, and by the women themselves. . . . The weekly coming for work does more to keep many of the women busy and give them courage than anything else during the week, as it is a real social function for many of them. We have many years substituted for the 'Pink Ice-cream Day' (the last Tuesday in March), groceries which the women take home in baskets, usually about ten packages apiece, of the best and most economical food and a pot of some *good* sauce or sweetmeats. . . . Dr. Adams told me the Employment Society had done more to make the mission on Third Avenue possible than any one influence he knew of. . . . We have tried to make the women feel that it is a business institution, and that they must earn what they get so far as possible. We now have a decent lot of self-respecting but very poor women, where, even in my day, they were a lot of untidy, irresponsible children

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## THE EMPLOYMENT SOCIETY

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crying if they did not get pay and work, and many of them hardly knowing how to thread a needle."

When the chapel became too small and the new church on Thirtieth Street was built, the Employment Society had become such an important part of the work that the ladies interested were allowed to fit up one room for their special use.

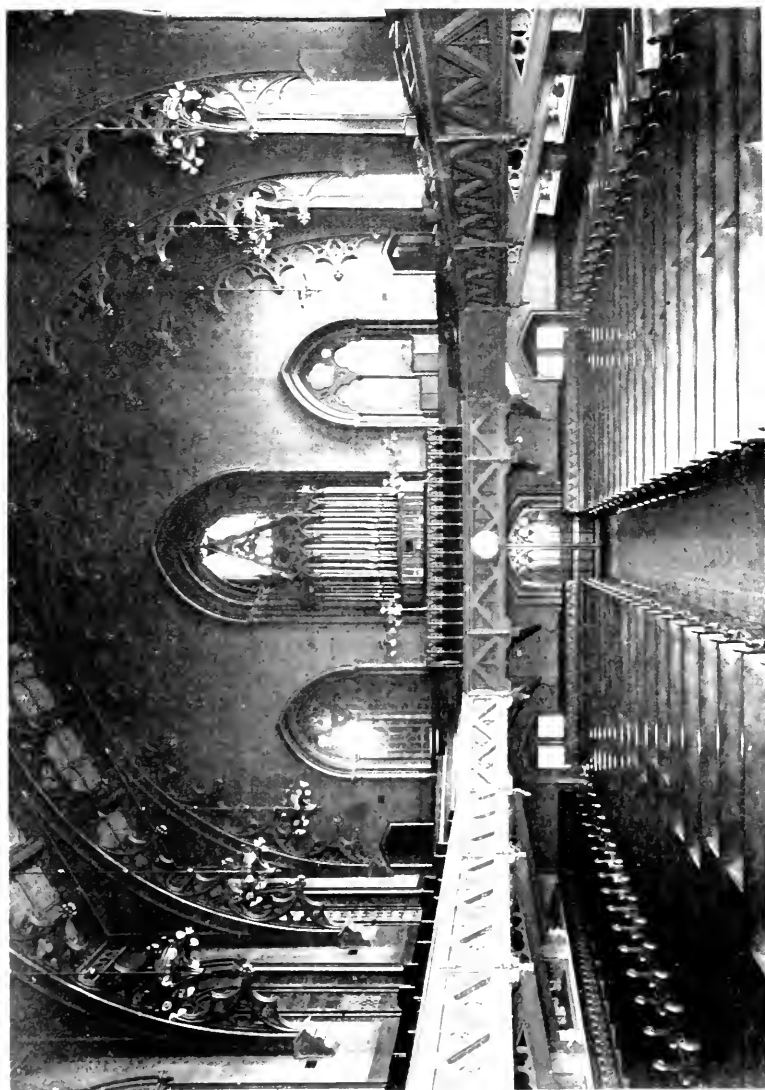
Starting from small beginnings the work has increased till for a good many years the number employed has been between seventy and eighty each year.

The society as at present organized is as follows :

<i>Hon. President</i>	<i>President</i>
Mrs. C. H. PATTERSON	Miss MARTHA E. WOODBURY
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Assistant-Treasurer</i>
Miss H. B. WOODRUFF	Miss LEILA DAVIS
<i>Secretary</i>	
Mrs. CHARLES A. MUNGER	
<i>Cashier</i>	<i>Assistant-Cashier</i>
Miss ELEANOR L. WOODRUFF	Miss ETHEL SMITH
<i>Superintendent of Work</i>	
Miss JULIA C. WELLS	
<i>Assistants</i>	
Miss ELIZABETH OAKLEY	Miss MABEL JONES
	Miss ROSS
<i>Superintendent of Sales</i>	
Mrs. COWDREY-BROWN	
<i>Purchasing Committee</i>	
Mrs. WILLIAM NICHOLS SHAW	
<i>Committee on Home Cutting</i>	
Mrs. WILLIAM BRENNAN	Mrs. E. T. HASSEY
Mrs. F. G. COUCH	Miss MONTSALVATGE
Mrs. ELEBASH	Mrs. S. E. MORRISON
Mrs. BENJ. GRIFFEN	Mrs. S. H. TALCOTT







INTERIOR OF THE OLD CHURCH

## Loan Relief Society

**A**T an informal meeting held at the residence of Mrs. M. H. Brown, May 10th, 1882, the Loan Relief Society was formed, composed of members from the Madison Square Presbyterian Church, to work in connection with the Thirtieth Street Memorial Chapel.

The Society was organized as follows: Mrs. M. Hartley Brown, President, Mrs. William H. Barbour, Treasurer, Miss Grace H. Dodge, Secretary. Trustees, Rev. Dr. Parkhurst, Rev. E. A. Elmore, Rev. Louis Wolferz, Mr. W. P. St. John, Mrs. Charles H. Parkhurst, Mrs. William H. Wickham, Mrs. Charles Spencer, Mrs. William Earl Dodge, Mrs. O. P. Hubbard, Mrs. M. J. Lamb, Mrs. Harvey, Miss Emily Smith, Mrs. N. A. Cowdry, Mrs. Francis Tows, Mrs. C. H. Hubbard.

Article II of the constitution is as follows: Its object shall be to devise methods for assisting the poor to help themselves; to loan money in small sums upon good security to those temporarily disabled by misfortune, and articles necessary for the comfort and recovery of the sick; to supply medical attendance and medicines gratuitously when needful, or to secure their purchase for the poor at a low rate; to visit the sufferers in their homes, and thoroughly

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## LOAN RELIEF SOCIETY

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investigate into the nature of their distresses. Also to tender legal aid and protection, to give counsel and advice, and to help those who are oppressed and defrauded.

In June, by the advice and with the assistance of Mr. Mazet, the Society was formally incorporated in accordance with the laws of the State of New York.

The Society resolved itself into several special committees of which the most important were the following :

### Visiting Committee

Mrs. N. A. COWDRY, *Chairman*

Mrs. WM. H. WICKHAM	Miss MARY TAYLOR
Miss SUSIE LANE	Rev. E. A. ELMORE
Rev. LOUIS WOLFERZ	Mr. WILLIAMS

### Coal Committee

Mrs. MARTHA J. LAMB, *Chairman*

Mrs. CHARLES S. SPENCER	Mrs. W. H. BARBOUR
Rev. EDGAR A. ELMORE	Rev. LOUIS WOLFERZ

Mrs. THOMAS H. HUBBARD

### Legal Aid Committee

ROBERT MAZET

### Medical Aid

Dr. CLARENCE E. BEEBE

Mrs. CHARLES H. PARKHURST

### Loan Committee

Mrs. CHARLES H. PARKHURST, *Chairman*

Miss EMILY SMITH	Miss MARTHA J. LAMB
Mrs. CHARLES S. SPENCER	Rev. E. A. ELMORE

Rev. LOUIS WOLFERZ

A few extracts are herewith transcribed from the Society's first annual report:—

“In May, the Society became an incorporated institution, for the requirements of the legal department. . .

“The Committee on Coal has had for its object to enable the poor to buy coal as reasonably as the rich. To accomplish this the Committee took advantage of the low price of coal in the early summer, buying fifty tons, and contracting for fifty additional tons at the same price, the coal being allowed to remain in the yard and delivered as orders were sent. The Committee in the fall were therefore able to sell their coal at a saving to the people of upwards of one dollar on each ton. The one hundred tons were exhausted by December, but a fresh contract was made with the dealer at wholesale rates.

“1st. A medical staff was selected, consisting of two physicians. 2d. The coöperation of a competent druggist was secured, with the understanding that all patients in the care of either member of the staff should obtain their medicines from him at a minimum cost. . . . Eight cases have been treated, fifty-three visits made, four patients discharged cured, three improved, and one lost sight of.

“Twenty-five dollars was appropriated by the Board of Management towards the Loan Department. Out of this four money loans have been made, two towards the purchasing of sewing ma-

chines, and two in small sums; and the loans have been repaid promptly."

With the gradual improvement of the material condition of the Adams Memorial Church people less and less service is required to be rendered them, and one after another the several lines of effort maintained in their behalf have been suspended until only that of the Coal Club now remains. Of this latter department there has not only been no abatement of activity but a steady increase, and no too cordial words can be spoken in commendation of the earnestness and fidelity of Mrs. William H. Barbour who for almost a quarter of a century has devoted herself with untiring patience to the wholesale purchase of coal and its retail among the members of the Adams Memorial Church, and latterly also among the attendants at the Church House. And it is an act of justice also as well as of pleasure to acknowledge our indebtedness to Mr. H. L. Herbert, from whom our purchases of coal have from year to year been made, and who has not only dealt with us fairly, but more than fairly, and always shown himself willing to put himself to inconvenience in our interest and in the interest of our patrons.

Commencing with the winter of 1882-3, and terminating with the winter of 1904-5, the number of tons of coal sold each of the succeeding winters is as follows:

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## HISTORICAL SKETCH

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	TONS
1882-3.....	149
1883-4.....	109
1884-5.....	103
1885-6.....	98
1886-7.....	139
1887-8.....	170
1888-9.....	222
1889-1890.....	161
1890-1.....	133
1891-2.....	151
1892-3.....	209
1893-4.....	182
1894-5.....	185
1895-6.....	175
1896-7.....	203
1897-8.....	158
1898-9.....	165
1899-1900.....	164
1900-1.....	222
1901-2.....	275
1902-3.....	208
1903-4.....	328
1904-5.....	362
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	4,271 tons

Making a grand total of 4,271 tons, and which involves a saving to our East Side purchasers of approximately \$3,715.77, that is to say, about 87 cents a ton.





## Ladies' Visitation Society and Bureau of Information

**I**N the year 1891, a few ladies of the Madison Square Church met at the house of Mrs. W. C. Gulliver to organize what was afterwards called the Ladies' Visitation Society.

This society was composed of ladies of the Church who volunteered to take one or two families connected with our Mission on Third Avenue under their care, visit them from time to time, enquire into the needs of each household, and give such aid and encouragement as was deemed best.

Monthly meetings were held, and reports made by the ladies, giving an account of the condition in which they found their several families.

As the unanimous opinion seemed to be that the need of work was one of the most pressing necessities, and how to obtain it the most perplexing problem for the tenement-house mother to solve, the Bureau of Information was planned and begun at the Church House during the following year.

The object of the Bureau was to procure employment for the members of the Mission ; and all the women in the care of the Visitation Society and others outside were encouraged, with this end in view, to register their names and addresses and the kind of work desired. A committee of ladies volun-

teered to give their services for an hour or two each morning at the Church House, to investigate the references of all applicants and help them get into touch with members of the church and others who were in search of workers. Some of the ladies so connected with the Bureau during the early period of its existence were Mrs. Charles Burchard, Mrs. W. C. Gulliver, Miss Alice Smith, Mrs. Charles W. Buckley.

From this small beginning the Bureau has grown, not only in the number of applicants for positions and employers seeking help, but the character of the work has also somewhat changed and expanded.

Situations by the day are found and filled; a list of good boarding houses and lodging rooms is kept; comfortable homes in the country are found for men, women and children; and assistance of one kind or another is rendered to some twelve hundred annually.

The Bureau which is open at the Church House, 432 Third Avenue, each day, except Saturday, from 10 A.M. to 12 P.M. is under the supervision of a Committee and under the direct management of Mrs. Buckley.

The Committee for the current year is

MR. WILLIAM N. CRANE

REV. CHARLES H. PARKHURST

MRS. WILLIAM T. BRIDGE

MRS. FRANCIS W. UPHAM

MRS. CHARLES D. WADSWORTH

MRS. CHARLES W. BUCKLEY





LECTURE ROOM OF THE OLD CHURCH

## The Fresh Air Work

**T**HE Young People's Society of the Madison Square Presbyterian Church, Henry E. Merriam, President, began the work of the Fresh Air Committee of the church in 1880.

The work at that time was under the immediate supervision of the Rev. Henry E. Wilson, co-operating with Mr. S. D. Williams, and they at that time made up a small party of boys, sending them to Armenia, a small station on the Harlem Railway.

The following year the work was continued by the Young People's Committee, under the chairmanship of Dr. Clarence E. Beebe, with the direct supervision still in the hands of the Rev. Mr. Wilson and Mr. Williams, and the work began to rapidly broaden.

In 1882 Dr. J. A. Bishop was put in charge of the work, and had the responsibility of placing the children at Park Ridge, N. J., parties being made up by Mr. Wilson. In 1886 the work had grown to such an extent that it was necessary to find a larger outlet for the children, and farmers were found in the eastern part of Connecticut who were willing to take the parties during the heated season ; although these places were more remote, the Sound trip proved to be a great attraction, and the work was continued most successfully until Mr. Williams' death in 1901.

After this date Miss M. E. Beardslee of the Adams Memorial Sunday School and Miss Haines of the Church House took Mr. Williams' place, and the work is still being continued along the same lines, except that a permanent home has been procured at Fort Montgomery on the Hudson River.

From 1882 to 1904 the number of beneficiaries of the Fresh Air work was 6,150, and the total amount spent for their summer outings was \$18,500. The money at first was procured by voluntary subscription for this specific purpose from members of the church, and latterly has been disbursed by the Budget Committee.

In all these years there have been only three accidents, two were deaths by drowning, and the other a minor accident.

## The Helping Hand

THE Helping Hand was started as a sewing class in 1889 by Mrs. Talbot Olyphant at the request of Mrs. Ballou, who preceded Miss Haines in the old Church House. At the first meeting there were seven women present who had been gathered together by Mrs. J. Crosby Brown in some Mothers' Meetings.

She was at once joined in the growing work by Mrs. Wm. Adams, Mrs. B. deF. Curtiss and Miss Gillet, and upon her resignation in 1891, Miss Gillet became the first Directress. The religious exercises were conducted by Mrs. George Wood, now a missionary in Syria.

The object of the Helping Hand has been to teach the mothers of the Church House Mission to make garments for themselves, to bring them into pleasant associations and give them one-half hour of practical and religious instruction. At first the material and garments were given free, but it was found better before long to charge one-half the cost of the material. In 1889 there were three classes; there are now fifteen, with over a hundred women in attendance. The numerical growth, however, is only a partial indication of the work that has been done. There has been an increasing sense of the right and the

wrong way of doing things, a growth in appreciation, a growth in uplift and also spirituality.

In connection with the growth of the work of the Helping Hand must be mentioned the Crèche.

When the Helping Hand became a large society, it was found necessary to make provision for the little children, too young to be left at home, who came with their mothers and seriously interfered with order in the meetings. In the winter of 1895-6, Miss Pauline Humphrey, Miss Katherine Ludington and Miss Helen Ludington began entertaining the children in the back room at the old Mission, and, when possible, taught them kindergarten games and songs. Miss Pratt, who has been so faithful to the work, joined it soon after it started. After three years, some of the original workers dropped out, others took their places and the Crèche has continued and flourished. The attendance varies according to weather, but there have often been as many as sixty children, the majority mere babies, to be entertained and handed back safely to their mothers at the end of the afternoon.

The Helping Hand is at present organized as follows :

Miss ALLETTA LENT . . .	<i>First Directress</i>
Mrs. HENRY L. STIMSON . . .	<i>Second Directress</i>
Miss E. L. HAINES . . .	<i>Third Directress</i>
Miss M. A. WALKER . . .	<i>Secretary</i>
Miss CANDACE C. STIMSON .	<i>Treasurer</i>



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## HISTORICAL SKETCH

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### *Honorary Advisory Committee :*

Mrs. C. H. PARKHURST      Miss GERTRUDE GILLET

### *Purchasing Committee :*

Mrs. W. H. BARBOUR      Mrs. G. M. DECKER

### *Cutting Committee :*

Mrs. G. M. DECKER      Mrs. F. H. SLADE

Mrs. W. H. BARBOUR      Miss HEROY

Mrs. G. B. EWING

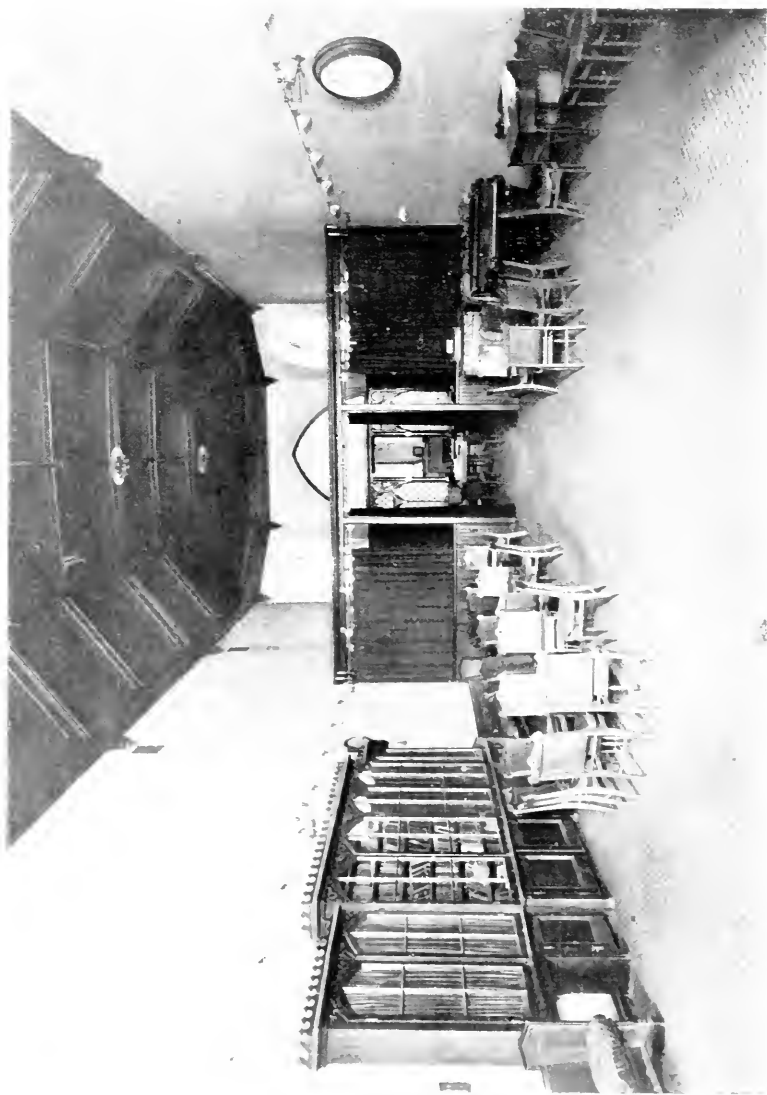
### *Crèche Committee :*

Miss ALICE PRATT





SUNDAY-SCHOOL ROOM OF THE OLD CHURCH



## The Kindergarten

THE history of our kindergarten work is brief and uneventful, but most successful. The first work done by our church in this department was in 1890. In the report rendered in 1893, the following-named persons are recorded as members of the committee in charge :

Mrs. WALTER L. HERVEY, *Chairman*  
Mrs. ARTHUR C. JAMES      Mrs. H. B. PLATT  
Mrs. CHARLES E. LAWTON    Mrs. LOUIS L. STANTON  
Miss JENNIE UNDERWOOD

The statement submitted in 1895 by Miss Elizabeth G. Parsons, the kindergartner, shows an attendance upon the classes of forty children.

The work was re-organized in 1896, under the chairmanship of Miss Mabel Slade, with Miss Florence E. Boyden as teacher. Miss Boyden has continued in this position till a year ago, when leave of absence was granted her for one year, her place being in the meantime supplied by her assistant, Miss Clara G. Long. The work throughout has been an interesting and beautiful one.

Miss SLADE . . . . . *Chairman*  
Miss ALICE J. SMITH . . . *Secretary*  
Mrs. BENJ. GRIFFEN      Mrs. WILLIAM M. KINGSLEY  
Mrs. ARTHUR C. JAMES    Mrs. GRAHAM LUSK

KINDERGARTEN COMMITTEE  
(Report of 1905-6)



## The Boys' Club

UNTIL a very recent date the work carried on at the Church House in the interest of the boys has been mostly of an experimental character. For a number of years semi-organized efforts have been made to do something for the domestication of this rather incorrigible element of our East Side population, and several of the young men from the Madison Square Church have put into the work an incalculable amount of time, work and patience. The need was felt of having a competent paid manager steadily in charge, and we did not for a considerable time see our way clear to ask for an appropriation sufficient for that purpose. Arrangement was made in 1903 with Mr. Edgar A. Smith to give us a part of his time. He was soon replaced by Mr. W. W. Manee, but it was only with the definite organization of the enterprise under Mr. H. H. Wikel and an arrangement with him that secured to the Church House his entire time that the boys' work commenced to show vigor and to yield tangible results.

At the final meeting of the committee, in May of 1895, it developed that Mr. Wikel had received a larger offer from the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute. His resignation was accordingly accepted, but with great regret. In his place we have secured Mr. Alpheus

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## THE BOYS' CLUB

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H. Favour, a graduate of Amherst in 1903 and of the New York Law School in 1905, who brought with him the highest recommendations from the Gordon House, East Side House and the Chrystie Street Settlement. He commenced work about the first of September, and has already thoroughly established himself in the confidence of the committee and in the respect of the boys.

The work done for the boys, and with them, is laid out along the lines of social clubs, gymnastic drill, field athletics, orchestral training and carpentry, with as much in the way of intellectual illumination and moral and religious suggestion as the peculiar features of the situation render feasible.

The present organization is as follows :

ARTHUR C. LUDINGTON . . .	<i>Chairman</i>
C. C. CURRAN . . . . .	<i>Secretary</i>
Dr. ELLICE M. ALGER . . .	<i>Treasurer</i>
Mrs. E. C. BODMAN	Dr. C. H. PARKHURST
Mrs. SETH SPRAGUE TERRY	LEEDS JOHNSON
Miss HELEN LUDINGTON	ERNEST T. CARTER
Dr. MATTHEW BEATTIE	F. G. CROCKER
ALPHEUS H. FAVOUR . . .	<i>Director-in-Charge</i>



## Girls' Clubs

THE girls' work of the Madison Square Church was started on November 21st, 1897, at 384 Third Avenue with a Bible Class, led by Miss Amy Brown and Miss Caroline Delano. There were seventeen girls present that first Sunday afternoon. The class was continued throughout that winter, but disbanded during the summer. The following autumn the class was resumed, and on Tuesday evening, November 11th, 1898, a small room at 152 East Twenty-seventh Street was opened for the use of its members. A club was organized and later in the winter another was formed composed of the younger girls; also classes in dress-making and millinery were started. On January 30th, 1901, the Girls' Club Committee was organized with the following members:

MISS ETHEL DE FOREST

MISS MABEL SLADE

MRS. GRAHAM LUSK

MRS. B. CLARKSON

(then MISS TIFFANY)

(then MISS HELEN SMITH)

MISS CAROLINE DELANO

The work has continued during all these years, growing slowly but steadily.

In February, 1902, the first Girls' Club Directress was engaged to oversee the work.

At the present time the work consists of a Young Women's Gospel Meeting, three Bible classes, one

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## GIRLS' CLUBS

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for teachers, taught by the Club Directress, one for older girls, taught by Miss Slade, and one for girls from twelve to fourteen years of age, taught by Miss Gertrude H. Tift. There are four organized clubs and fifteen different classes in the following subjects,—cooking, dressmaking, singing, gymnastics, sewing, machine sewing, music, embroidery, elocution, millinery and basketry. The total enrollment for all clubs and classes on January 1st, 1906, was 389. The total attendance for December, 1905, was over 1,500. The work is now under the direction of the following committee :

MISS CAROLINE DELANO	MISS MABEL SLADE
MISS ETHEL SMITH	MISS ALICE M. KELLOGG
MISS GERTRUDE H. TIFFT	

## The Church House Library

**T**HIS library was the gift to us of the Manhattan East Side Mission, formerly known as the Bible and Fruit Mission. It was upon the suspension of the work of the Mission that the transference of the Library to us was made, and that through the kind offices of Miss Laura Hoe.

Upon learning of the probable discontinuance of that East Side work, and feeling that its proximity to our own Third Avenue enterprise might in some little degree create for us the character of a legatee to whatever it had to bequeath, Dr. Parkhurst approached Miss Hoe, one of the interested trustees of the Manhattan East Side Mission, with reference to the library, and soon after received from her the following letter :—

DR. PARKHURST :

DEAR SIR : Thinking over the library with all the interest I have had in it for eight years, I resolved after reading your letter received this morning to propose to the Trustees that I should give two hundred dollars for the library to be sent to you for a Free Circulating Library. The motion was unanimously adopted. I did not mean to forestall any action on your part, but my proposition was handed in first. I should like to meet you or your representative at an early date at the library. Some of the furniture and equipments are my personal prop-

erty, and I shall need to confer with you concerning them. As the library is now closed and no one is in charge of the books, in my opinion the sooner they are removed the better it will be.

Very truly yours,

LAURA HOE.

April 10th, '99.

This exceedingly kind act on the part of Miss Hoe and her associates was appreciatively acknowledged and the books at once removed to the Adams Memorial Church, where they were stored for two years or until opportunity for their use was afforded by the completion of our Church House and the opening there of an ample library and reading room.

The library, since its installation in its present quarters, has been under the care of a special committee, of which the following-named persons have, for the whole or a part of the time, been members:—Messrs. George E. Marcus, B. deF. Curtiss, Ernest T. Carter, Henry V. A. Parsell, Marcellus Hartley Dodge and Dr. Parkhurst; also Mrs. S. M. Hall, Miss Lucy H. Humphrey and Miss Katharine Ludington. Upon the first organization of the committee Mr. Marcus was made president, and Mrs. Hall secretary and treasurer. Mr. Marcus soon resigned and Dr. Parkhurst was elected to fill the vacancy until December, 1905, when he was succeeded by Mr. Curtiss, present chairman.

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## HISTORICAL SKETCH

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The library has been particularly fortunate in its librarians, all of whom have not only discharged wisely and faithfully the duties of their office, but have also entered fully into sympathy with the general Christian purpose of the House. The first of our librarians was Miss Joanna Burnet, who commenced service with us in June, 1901. Upon her resignation in June, 1903, she was succeeded by Miss Harriette Austin, who two years later was followed by Miss M. E. Leman.

The library donated to us was an admirably selected one and contained about 4,000 volumes. The circulation last year was 10,962, and the attendance in the reading room 5,379. Constant additions have been made to our collection through the kindness of friends, and monthly loans of something like a hundred and fifty volumes have been made by the Traveling Department of the New York Public Library, adding materially to the effectiveness of our work.



















